DISNEY MASTERS

WALT DISNEY

Donald Duck

DUCK AVENGER

STRIKES AGAIN

ROMANO SCARPA

DISNEY MASTERS

DONALD DUCK: DUCK AVENGER STRIKES AGAIN

by Romano Scarpa

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These stories were created during an earlier time and may include cartoon violence, historically dated content, or gags that depict smoking, drinking, gunplay, or ethnic stereotypes. We present them here with their original flaws with a caution to the reader that they reflect a bygone era.

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Donald Duck: Uncle Scrooge's Money Rocket (Luciano Bottaro) (*Disney Masters* Vol. 2)
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Donald Duck: Duck Avenger Strikes Again (Romano Scarpa with Carl Barks) (*Disney Masters* Vol. 8)

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Mickey Mouse: The Ice Sword Saga (Massimo De Vita) (*Disney Masters* Vol. 9)

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WALT DISNEY

Donald Duck

BUCK AVENGER

STRIKES AGAIN

FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

SEATTLE

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WALT DISNEY

DONALD DUCK

in

"DUCK AVENGER" STRIKES AGAIN!

Chapter 1 of 2

STORY BY GUIDO MARTINA • ART BY ROMANO SCARPA • INKS BY GIORGIO CAVAZZANO
DIALOGUE AND TRANSLATION BY JONATHAN GRAY • EDITED BY GERSTEIN AND CATRON

DON'T CHEER *TOO LOUDLY*, MEN! UNCA *SNORE*-ALD'S SOUND *ASLEEP!*

ZZZ

INSIDE ...

ZZZZZZ

THIS TOY *REMOTE-CONTROL* AIRPLANE DRONE GOOD OL' *GRANDMA* GAVE US IS THE *COOLEST!*

YEAH, BUT SHE GAVE IT TO *ALL THREE* OF US!

WE WANNA PLAY WITH IT *TOO*, DEWEY!

YOU'VE HAD IT LONG ENOUGH! IT'S MY TURN!

NO! MINE!

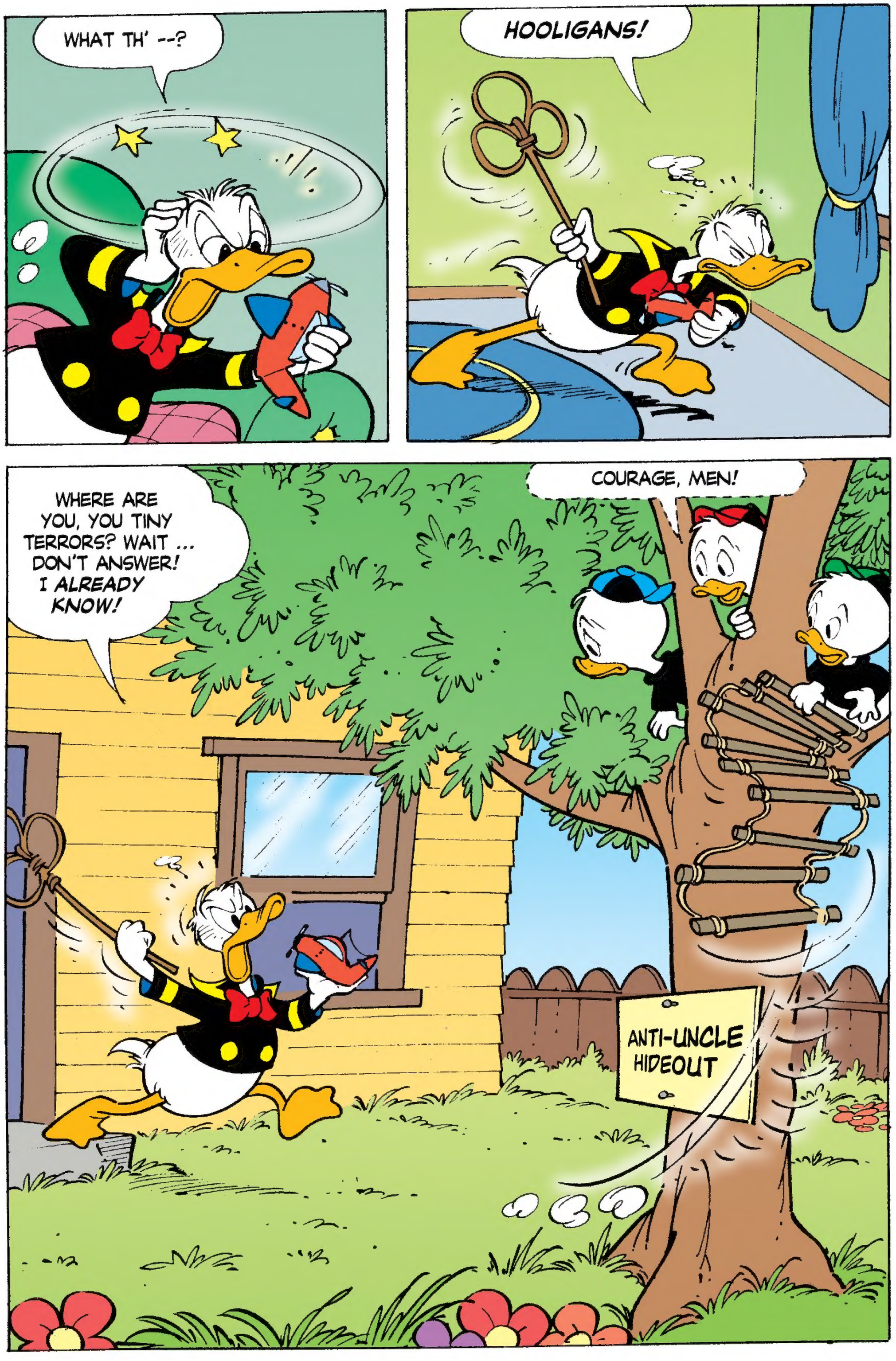
WAIT, I'M NOT FINISHED!

I WANNA PLAY!

NO! ME!

BUZZ OFF!

GIVE IT!
SELFISH!
YOU BULLIES! I SAID NO!
AS HUEY, DEWEY, AND LOUIE ARGUE, THEIR REMOTE CONTROL GOES HAYWIRE -- AND THEIR NEW TOY LOOPS AND SWOOPS AT WHIM ...
... RIGHT INTO THIS OPEN WINDOW! UH-OH!
VVVVV
CONK
ZZZ ...
YEOW!


WHAT TH' --?
HOOLIGANS!
WHERE ARE YOU, YOU TINY TERRORS? WAIT ... DON'T ANSWER! I ALREADY KNOW!
COURAGE, MEN!
ANTI-UNCLE HIDEOUT

DID I, OR DID I *NOT* TELL YOU MICROBES THAT I *NEED* MY *SLEEP?*

AN
HI

AND DID I OR DID I *NOT* SAY I *DON'T WANNA HEAR A SINGLE PEEP?*

Y-YES ...

WELL! YOU MAY NOT HAVE *PEEPED* ME, BUT YOU AERIAL ACES *BONKED ME* WITH A PLASTIC *PLANE!*

I WON'T BE BOMBED IN MY OWN HOME!

SORRY, UNCA DONALD ... OUR TAILSPIN SPUN OUT!

WAK! PUNS?!? I'LL SPIN YOUR *TAILS* INTO A TAILSPIN! *DOWN! NOW!*

C'MON! TIME FOR YOUR PUNISHMENT!

OH NO! WE'RE STAYING *UP HERE!*

FINE BY ME, SPACE-KIDETTES! ENJOY YOUR *CRASH* TO EARTH! -:NYEE HA HA!:-

WH-WHAT'RE YOU DOING, UNCA DONALD?

PLAYING *ROUGH!* WHEN I COUNT TO *THREE*, MY HAMMER'S GONNA *THUNDERDUNK* YOUR DRONE TO PIECES! SAY SAYONARA!

NO!

ONE ... TWO ...

STOP! WE SURRENDER!

-:CACKLE!:- JUSTICE IS SERVED!

-:HMF!:- MORE LIKE BLACKMAIL!

ANTI-UNCLE HIDEOUT

QUIET! THIS CLAPTRAP CONTRAPTION IS CONTRACTUALLY MINE!

AW ...

SNATCH!

A REMOTE-CONTROLLED DRONE, EH? NEXT TIME, REMOTE-CONTROL YOURSELVES AND LET ME HAVE MY WELL-EARNED REST!

WELL-EARNED REST?!

REST FROM WHAT?

YOU'VE GOTTA WORK TO EARN REST, UNCA EASY CHAIR!

I DO WORK! HARD! IN FACT ...

... I'LL WORK YOUR DISRESPECT-FUL TAILS OFF!

UH-OH! BEAT FEET!

WAK! WAK! WAK!

LET'S WEAR HIM OUT, MEN!

STOP IN THE NAME OF *MARTIAL LAW!*

OH, SO? IS THIS A *MAYPOLE*, OR A *MERRY-GO-ROUND?*

→*HMPH!*← DO *YOU* KNOW WHAT *YOUR* GRANDNEPHEWS --

SKIP IT. LET ME SEE WHAT ALL THE FUSS IS ABOUT, SCOUT!

WELL, WELL ... A REMOTE-CONTROLLED DRONE! HEH-HEH! MY FACTORIES BUILD THOUSANDS OF THESE.

SO! INSTEAD OF *EARNING RENT* YOU'RE WASTING TIME PLAYING *KID GAMES*, EH?

HE WANTS TO *PUNISH* US BECAUSE OUR DRONE LOST CONTROL, UNCA SCROOGE!

THEY DELIBERATELY *DISOBEYED ME* BY --

NEPHEW, IF I *SPANKED YOU* EVERY TIME YOU DISOBEYED *ME*, YOU'D HAVE SHATTERED INTO WHITE-HOT PILES OF *DUCK DUST* BY NOW!

GRRR!

EASY, DONALD! ... 1-2-3-4 ... CALM DOWN! *5-6-7-8* ... *CAAAAALLLM!!!*

UNBOIL YET, EGGHEAD?

NO! BECAUSE IT'S ALWAYS *FOUR VERSUS ONE* AROUND HERE!

THEN HOW ABOUT THIS? REMEMBER MY WAX MUSEUM?

THE PLACE WITH CREEPY CELEBRITY CLONES MADE OF CONGEALED CANDLE JUICE?

WHAT? I ... →SIGH!← YES, DONALD. FOR YEARS I'VE *MADE BIG MONEY* FROM SUCKERS COMING TO GAWK AT MY "CREEPY CELEBRITY CLONES"! BUT NOW, FOR NO REASON ...

POOF!

"POOF," LIKE NO *SUCKERS?*

YES! POOF, NO SUCKERS! NO ONE VISITS ANYMORE! NOT A SINGLE SOUL!

->PFFFT!<- WELL, *THAT'S* NO WONDER!

THE MOST "*MODERN*" CELEBRITY YOU'VE GOT IN THAT WAX MAUSOLEUM IS *BUFFALO BILL!* AND FOLKS CARE MORE ABOUT *BUFFALOS* AND *BILLS* THAN HIM!

WELL ...

TODAY'S PEOPLE WANT TO GAWK AT *TODAY'S* CELEBRITIES FROM *TODAY'S* TIME!

MAYBE ...

UNCA DONALD'S RIGHT, UNCA SCROOGE! MODERN DUCKBURGIANS ADMIRE MODERN ACTORS AND MODERN SINGERS!

WAITASEC ... *NOW I* GET IT! ACTORS AND SINGERS ARE *COMMONPLACE!* YOU HOPED I COULD THINK OF A VERY *SPECIAL* CELEBRITY!

A WAX *SOMEONE* WHO COULD DRAW CUSTOMERS LIKE FLIES TO GRAVY! SOMEONE LIKE ... A *SUPERHERO!*

AYE ... BUT HOW TO *ADVERTISE* HIM?

HOW DO YOU *USUALLY* ADVERTISE? *INVENT* A WAY!

HOLD THE PHONE ... NEPHEW, *THAT'S IT!*

IMAGINE THAT. I STRUCK PAYDIRT MINING *YOUR* EMPTY HEAD FOR IDEAS!

PAYDIRT? SWELL! *PAY UP!*

PAY *WHO?*

PAY *ME!* I DON'T KNOW WHAT IDEA YOU'VE GOT, BUT YOU SAID I GAVE IT TO YOU! PAY ME!

PAY *YOU?!* FOR AN IDEA? THAT'S RICH! WAIT -- *I'M* RICH! NOT YOU! SO *HA!*

THE NERVE, ASKING ME TO *BUY* AN IDEA YOU GAVE ME FOR *FREE!* I'M NO LONGER THE DUMB DUCK WHO WAS TRICKED INTO MINING FOR MINNOWS IN MINNESOTA!

→*ARGH!*← I GOOFED!

YOU BET YOUR SWEET BIPPY YOU DID! HA HA! WELL, FAM ... I'M OFF TO FIX A FINANCIAL FIASCO!

HMF ... NICE LITTLE TOY, THIS REMOTE-CONTROLLED DRONE. JUST LIKE THE ONES MY FACTORIES MAKE. YES, SIR!

HERE YOU GO, KIDS! TAKE CARE AND ENJOY!

WOO-HOO! NOW THAT'S HOW A *REAL* UNCLE ACTS!

REAL --? -:ARGH!:-

THAT *THIEF!* SHOWING ME UP AND STEALING MY IDEA! IT'S NOT FAIR!

WHAT IDEA *WAS* IT?

HECK IF I KNOW! BUT IT'S PROBABLY SOMETHING THAT'LL MAKE HIM *MILLIONS!*

OH, BROTHER! IMAGINE *YOU* THINKING *YOUR* IDEAS ARE WORTH MILLIONS, UNCA DONALD!

MAN, THAT'S *HILARIOUS!*

→SNORT!← I'LL GIVE YOU INGRATES SOMETHING TO LAUGH AT!

OH, SURE YOU WILL!

UH-OH! BEAT FEET, REPEAT!

WAIT ... NO. I'VE GOT A MUCH *BETTER* IDEA ...

I'LL SPARE THE ROD AND SPOIL MYSELF! FUN'S OVER! *HOUSE CLEANING DUTY* FOR YOU DISRESPECTFUL BRATS ... *ALL WEEK LONG!*

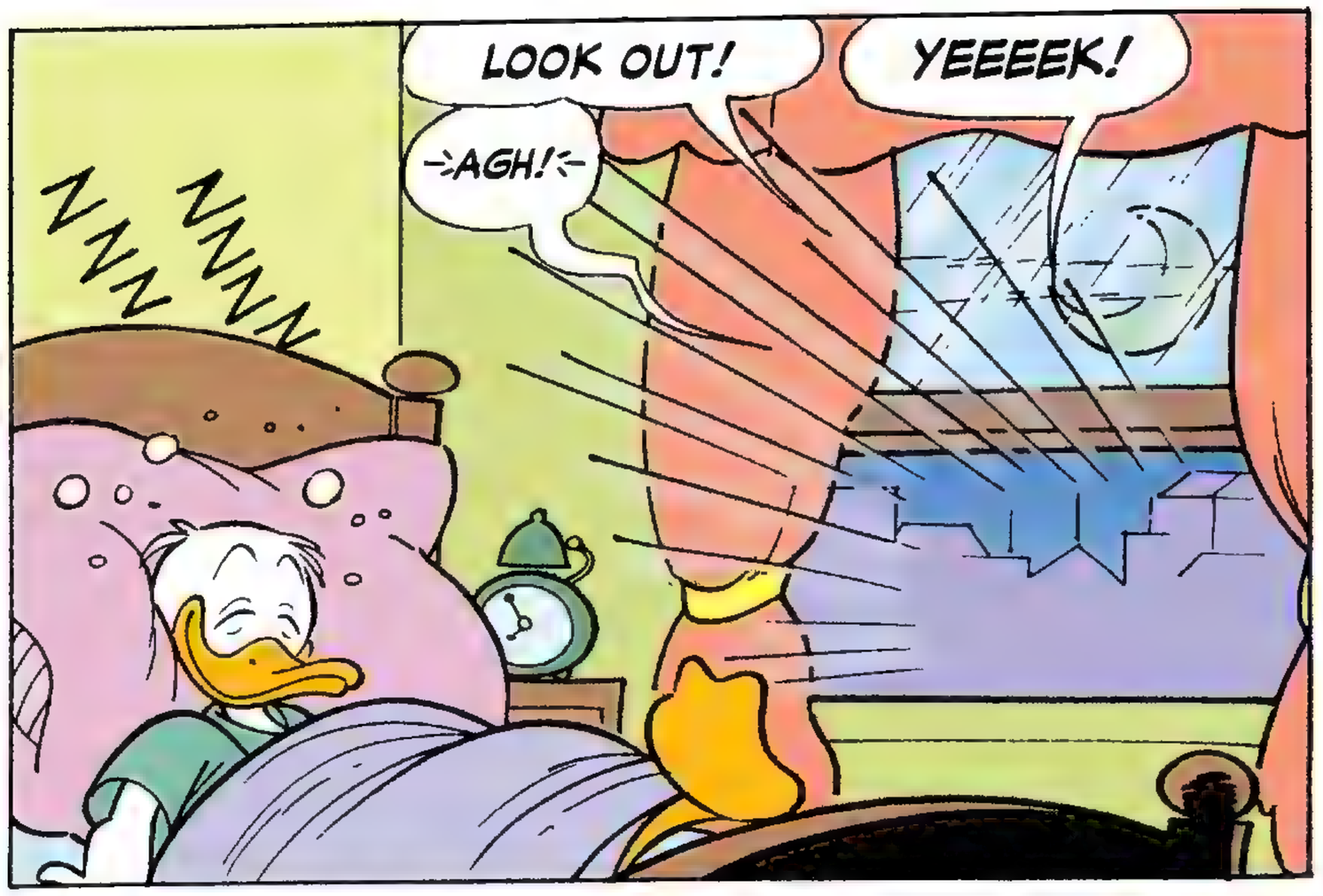
NOW GO! WORK! *GRIND!* **TOIL!** ANY SASS BACK, AND I'LL CHANGE MY MIND!

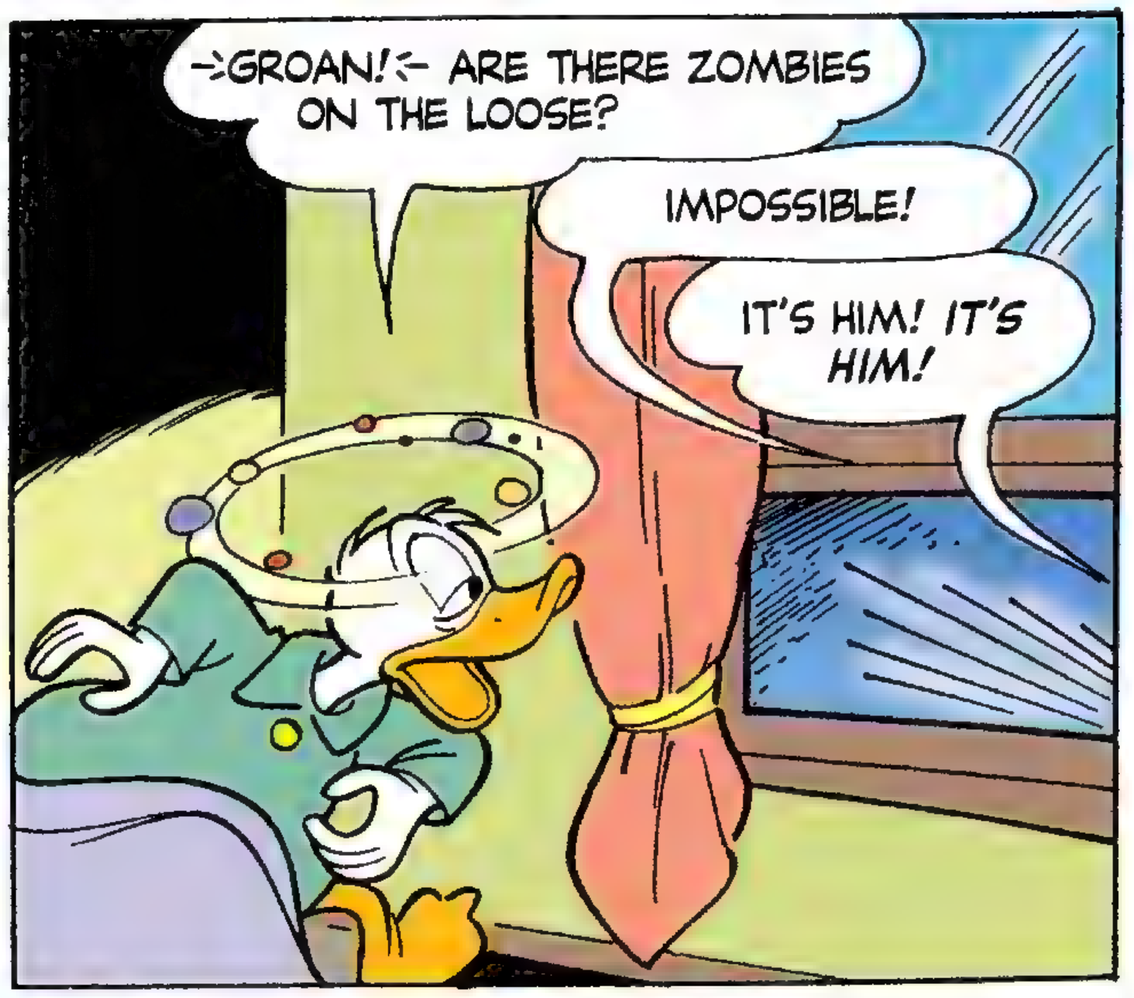
Y-YES, SIR!

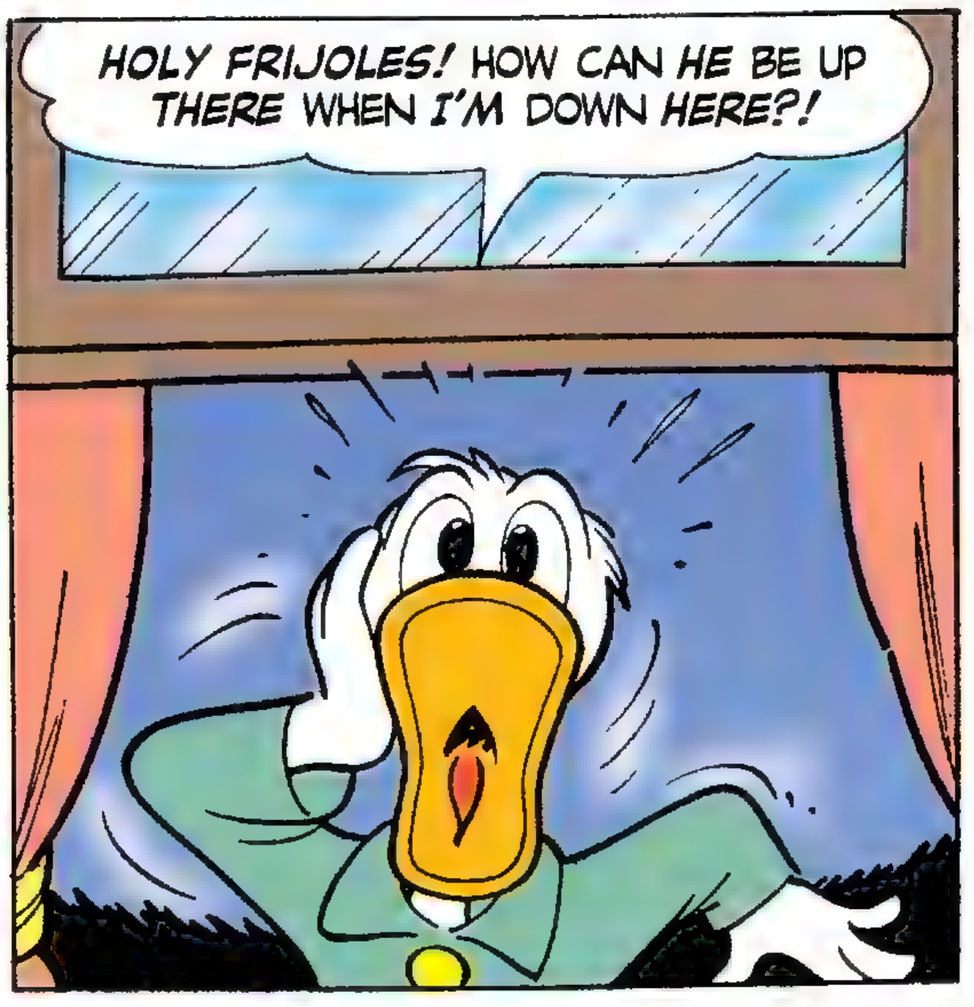
OUR HOUSE IS GONNA BE A *ZONE OF SILENCE* UNTIL IT'S FILTH-FREE AND SPARKLING! UNDERSTAND?

→GROAN!← MORE LIKE A *PRISON* OF SILENCE.

FOR A FEW DAYS AND NIGHTS, EVERYTHING PROCEEDS ACCORDING TO DONALD'S DESIGN. UNTIL ...







LOOK!

UP IN THE SKY!

IT'S A BIRD *AND* A PLANE!

IT'S DUCK AVENGER!

HALP!

TH-THAT'S *UN*-POSSIBLE ... BECAUSE *I'M* DUCK AVENGER! SO WHO THE HOO-HAH IS *HE*?!

HOLY --!

YEEK!

THUD

WE'D ALREADY SUSPECTED YOU, UNCA DONALD ...

... BUT NOW WE'RE *SURE* OF IT!

YOUR *SORDID SECRET* IS OUT IN THE OPEN!

WHAT SECRET? THAT I'M *CONSCIOUS?*

YOU'RE DUCK AVENGER!

WE SAW YOU FLYING AROUND OUTSIDE, JUST BEFORE ...

... SWOOPING IN THROUGH *THAT* WINDOW!

OH, SURE! *I'M* DUCK AVENGER IN MY FLASHY *NIGHTGOWN!* THAT'S ME ALL OVER! QUIT BEIN' *GOOFY!*

OH. ER ...

HUH! WHAT IF HE *QUICK-CHANGED* OUT OF HIS COSTUME ...

... AND *HID IT AWAY* SOMEWHERE, SUPER-FAST!

BUT *WHERE?*

QUICK, MEN! LOOK UNDER HIS BED!

ENOUGH ALREADY! OUT! NOW!

HEY!

OW!

YOW!

SMACK!

SMACK!

THAT'LL TEACH YOU THREE TO *RESPECT* YOUR UNCLE!

NOW GO BACK TO YOUR ROOMS! AND *WOE* BE UNTO YOU IF YOU DARKEN MY DOOR AGAIN!

YESSIR ...

I'D PAY ALL THE MILLIONS I DON'T HAVE TO LEARN WHO THAT *FAKE AVENGER* WAS!

–>URK!<– WH-WHAT IF SOMEONE HAS DISCOVERED MY *SECRET SUB-BASEMENT LAIR* AND *STOLEN* MY MASK AND COSTUME?

FIRST I'LL LOCK MY BEDROOM DOOR FOR SAFETY'S SAKE. THEN I'LL PERFORM A SITE SURVEY ...

CRICK

CRACK

GYRO'S *WARDROBE ELEVATOR* SURE IS MIGHTY HANDY. HEH-HEH!

WITH THE PRESS OF A BUTTON IN HIS HIDDEN ELEVATOR, DONALD DESCENDS TO HIS SECRET DUCK AVENGER REFUGE ...

ZZZZ

ZZZZ

KNIK

SANCTUM SANCTORUM TIME!

LET'S SEE! COSTUME, MASK ... SLEEP-GAS SQUIRT BOTTLE ... *COCO NONO* MEMORY-WIPING CHOCOLATE DROPS ... ALL HERE!

NOBODY'S BEEN HERE! MY SECRET IDENTITY IS SAFE!

NOW TO CHECK ON THE WORKSHED UP ABOVE ...

ENTERING THROUGH A HIDDEN HATCH IN THE SHED FLOOR, DONALD TESTS THE SECRET GIZMOS THAT TRANSFORM HIS CAR INTO DUCK AVENGER'S 313-X!

EVERYTHING CHECKS OUT! NOBODY'S SNOOPED AROUND IN HERE, EITHER!

WHICH LEADS ME BACK TO MY ORIGINAL QUESTION -- WHO *IS* THE FAKE AVENGER THAT'S DRIVEN DUCKBURG INTO A TIZZY?

THE FOLLOWING MORNING ...

I'D BETTER CHECK THE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS TO SEE IF THEY COVERED ALL THE HULLABALOO LAST NIGHT.

BUT AS DONALD STROLLS DOWN THE STREET ...

WHAT'S GOING ON? WHY IS EVERYONE ACTING LIKE I'M PATIENT ZERO?!

GREAT HONK ... EVERYONE ACTS LIKE THEY'RE *TERRIFIED* OF ME!

RUN AWAY! HURRY!

TODAY'S *PAPER?* HERE! ***DON'T GET ANY CLOSER!***

OH, COME ON! AM I CONTAGIOUS?!

WHY THIS FEATHERY FUSS?

DUCKBURG CHRONICLE

DUCK AVENGER: THREAT OR MENACE?

Police helpless! Flying freak spreads chaos and confusion across our fair city. Innocent citizens fear for their lives!

"... AND HE WAS LAST SEEN VANISHING INTO THE RUINS OF VILLA ROSE ..."

THE SPOT WHERE I FIRST FOUND FANTOMALLARD'S *DUCK AVENGER GEAR!* A PERFECT HIDING PLACE ... NOBODY GOES OUT THERE FOR FEAR OF *GHOSTS!*

DUCKBURG CHRONICLE

BUT WHY IS EVERYBODY AFRAID OF ME TODAY? I DIDN'T --

WAK!

POST NO DUCK BILLS

"THIS ENLARGED PHOTO OF DUCK AVENGER REVEALS A CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO AN INFAMOUS, NOTORIOUSLY NOISY LOCAL CITIZEN ... "

NOTORIOUS! NOISY! WHY, I ...

DUCK AVENGER! HANDS UP IN THE NAME OF THE LAW!

WAK! WHA --?

I SURRENDER!!!

BWA HA HA!

→WOO-HOO-HA HA!← OH, CUZ! THIS IS RICH!

GLADSTONE GANDER! →SNARL!← I OUGHTTA SLUG YOU!

CAREFUL! WITH MY FANTABULOUS *LUCK*, YOU'LL GET SLIMY SLUGS *ON* YOU, "DUCK AVENGER"!

CAN THE QUIPS! AND QUIT CALLING ME DUCK AVENGER!

GIVE ME *SOME* CREDIT, COUSIN! I READ THAT NEWSPAPER, TOO, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE IT! THE AVENGER IS *COMPETENT!* BUT *YOU?* YOU'RE A *TOTAL MESS!* I'D *NEVER* BELIEVE HE'S YOU!

AND EVEN IF YOU WERE HIM, WHAT COULD A *POOR, PLUCKED BIRD* DO TO ME?

TA-TA! HA HA!!!

URGHHH!

"POOR, PLUCKED BIRD" *ME*, WILL HE? →*GRRR!*← I'LL MAKE THAT LOUDMOUTHED LUCKNIK PAY FOR --

→*WHOLP!*← HEY, YOU MISCREANTS! WHAT ARE THOSE *BINDLES* FOR?

WE LISTENED TO THE RADIO AND READ THE PAPER, AND NOW WE'RE GONNA GO LIVE ON GRANDMA'S FARM!

ONCE UPON A TIME, THIS WAS AN *HONEST HOUSE!*

NOW IT'S THE *SEEDY DIVE* OF AN *ANARCHIC OUTLAW!*

WE'RE *UPSTANDING* MISCREANTS, SIR!

GOOD DAY, UNCA *NOTORIOUSLY NOISY!*

→WAUGH!!← I CAN'T STAND IT!

BONK BONK

WHY, OH WHY, IS MY ENTIRE LIFE A SEA OF ENDLESS *CONTEMPT* AND UNIVERSAL *RIDICULE?!*

BONK BONK

?

?

DOGGONE *FAKE AVENGER!* STEALING MY LIKENESS TO LOOK LIKE THE LIKENESS OF ME THAT I LIKENED AWAY ... OR SOMETHING!

!

!

WELL, IF THIS IS A CHALLENGE, I *ACCEPT* IT ... I, THE *DEFINITELY-NOT-ME DUCK AVENGER!*

NO ONE ESCAPES MY WRATH! →SNORT!← TONIGHT, THE *TRUE* DUCK AVENGER *STRIKES AGAIN!*

NIGHT FALLS ACROSS DUCK-BURG ...

TONIGHT I'LL PATROL THE VILLA ROSE RUINS! AND IF THAT *FAKE AVENGER* DARES TO SHOW HIS BEAK ...

... I'LL SEND HIM TO SLUMBERLAND WITH *SLEEP GAS!*

Z

AND THEN I'LL BOOT HIM RIGHT OUTTA THE COUNTY!

AND *THEN* -- NO, WAIT! FIRST, I'LL HIDE MY *313-X* IN THIS THICK BRUSH!

NOW! FISTICUFFS WITH A PHONY FAKER. *BRING IT!*

WHERE ARE YOU, FAKE AVENGER?

COME FACE ME, YOU *COWARD!* FIGHT ME MAN-TO-MAN, LIKE A *DUCK!*

I AM *INVINCIBLE!* I AM *DOOM ITSELF!* I AM *DUCK AVENGER!*

BUT UNBEKNOWNST TO OUR HERO, A TRAP HAS BEEN SET! TWO OF DUCKBURG'S FINEST LIE IN WAIT ...

KING RUDEBOY HAS ARRIVED!

TIME FOR A TWO-WAY TAKE DOWN!

I'LL HIT THAT LOONEY LOUDMOUTH HIGH!

WHILE I CUT HIS *RETREAT ROUTE* OFF AT THE PASS!

AH-*HA!* SUDDENLY I SPY A *SHADOW!*

TIME FOR YOUR *BEDDY-BYE*, FAKE AVENGER!

YIKES! A COP!

GOT YOU, AVENGER!

NO! I'VE GOT *YOU!*

HEY -- -:OOF!:-

SPRITZ!

I'D BETTER SCRAM BEFORE THAT SLEEPING BEAUTY WAKES UP!

DUCK AVENGER! HALT IN THE NAME OF THE LAW!

ANOTHER ONE?!?

OH, ME, OH, MY! SPRING BOOTS, DON'T FAIL ME NOW!

STOP OR I'LL --

TWOMP

TWOMP

BANG BANG

ZIP

ZIP

→UGH! UGH! UGH!←

→OOF!← MADE IT!

BLONK

NOW TO HEAD HOME!

KRAASH

WHA --?! IS HE A BLOODHOUND?

WHEE-OOO

WHEE-OOO

GOTTA LOSE HIM! THANKFULLY, THAT PESKY PATROLMAN DOESN'T KNOW WHAT MY 313-X CAN DO!

TIME FOR ME TO HAVE SOME *FUN!* "STEP INTO MY PARLOR," SAID THE SPIDER ...

... TO THE FLY!

CLIK

SWIISSHH

HOLY--!

♪ SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES! ♪

WHA --?

-:HACK! COUGH!:-

HEY!

CRASHH

AND THAT'S THAT! TIME TO BEAT ME A SWEET RETREAT -- TO SLEEP!

BUT ...

ATTENTION ALL UNITS! DUCK AVENGER JUST *CLOBBERED* ME ...

... AND NOW THAT WE ALL KNOW WHO HE *IS*, LET'S *BRING HIM IN!* GET HIM ON HIS WAY *HOME!*

AND SO ...

CALLING ALL CARS! BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR DONALD FAUNTLEROY DUCK! *SURROUND HIS HOUSE!*

I'LL JUMP BACK ONTO THE FAKE AVENGER TRAIL TOMORROW! BUT TONIGHT ... →*YAAAWN!*← I DESERVE A GOOD NIGHT'S REST! FORTY WINKS -- NO, *EIGHTY!*

BUT WITH THE COPS HOT ON HIS TAIL, WILL OUR HERO END UP CATCHING HIS EIGHTY WINKS IN JAIL?

AND EVEN IF HE DOES MAKE IT HOME, CAN DONALD SUCCESSFULLY EVADE CAPTURE THERE -- SO HE CAN DISCOVER WHO THE MYSTERIOUS FAKE AVENGER IS?

READ ON FOR THE ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS AND MORE -- IN CHAPTER TWO OF "DUCK AVENGER STRIKES AGAIN!"

WALT DISNEY

DONALD DUCK

in

DUCK AVENGER STRIKES AGAIN!

Chapter 2 of 2

THE FLIGHT OF THE FAKE "DUCK AVENGER" HAS THROWN DUCKBURG INTO A PANIC! AND, UNFORTUNATELY, THE MAIN SUSPECT IS DONALD DUCK -- DUE TO HIS EXTRAORDINARY RESEMBLANCE TO THE MYSTERIOUS VIGILANTE!

HOPING TO DUEL WITH HIS DEVIANT DOUBLE, DONALD DONNED HIS COSTUME TO BECOME THE REAL DUCK AVENGER AND WENT TO THE RUINS OF VILLA ROSE -- ONLY TO FIND TWO COPS WAITING THERE TO CAPTURE HIM INSTEAD! THE AVENGER ESCAPED, BUT THE POLICE LAUNCHED AN ALL-OUT MANHUNT FOR HIM!

SOON, EVERY COP IN DUCKBURG WAS CONVERGING ON DONALD'S HOUSE TO ARREST HIM UPON HIS RETURN!

NOW -- OUR HERO HAS HIDDEN HIS COSTUME UNDER THE CUSHIONS OF HIS CAR SEAT AND RETURNED TO HIS REGULAR OUTFIT. BUT JUST AS HE NEARS HIS HOME ...

WUH-OH! THAT'S A COP CAR!

STOP!

313

... AND ANOTHER ... AND *ANOTHER!*

GULP! ... WH-WHY DO I GET THE FEELING THAT THEY'RE ALL HEADED TO *MY* HOUSE?

TIME FOR SOME *AERIAL RECON!*

313

AND THANKS TO GYRO'S ADDITION OF AN *EJECTOR SEAT* ...

CLIK

... NO NEED TO CLIMB!

HELLO, TREETOP OBSERVATORY! HOW DO?

GREAT HONK! IT'S WORSE THAN I THOUGHT!

THEY'VE SURROUNDED MY WHOLE YARD! THEY'VE COVERED EVERY ANGLE!

THEY'LL NEVER FIND MY SUB-BASEMENT -- BUT IF THEY CATCH MY CAR THEY'LL FIND MY SECRET DETACHABLE AVENGER GADGETS!

I KNOW HOW TO GET OUT OF THIS ...

... BUT FIRST I'VE GOTTA PAY A LITTLE VISIT TO GYRO GEARLOOSE!

TAKE OUT ALL THE ... *SECRET DEVICES* FROM YOUR CAR? AT *THIS* TIME OF NIGHT? I DON'T EVEN REMEMBER INSTALLING THEM ...

YOU SUCKED DOWN A *COCO NONO* TO MAKE YOURSELF FORGET! LONG STORY!

GYRO GEARLOOSE

GYRO GEARLOOSE

INVENTIONS WHILE-U-WAIT

AND NOW IT'S A *DUCKCON-FIVE EMERGENCY*, HUH? THIS WILL TAKE SOME TIME.

THAT'S OK! I'LL WAIT!

OH, HEY! IF YOU NEED SOME SLEEP, YOU CAN CRASH ON THE COUCH IN MY *DUCK GAMILY HALLERY!*

ER ... "DUCK FAMILY GALLERY"?

SURE! DAISY COMMISSIONED PLASTIC MODELS OF OUR WHOLE GANG TO USE FOR A *PARADE FLOAT* NEXT MONTH! IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A SURPRISE!

DUCK FAMILY GALLERY

KEEP OUT
INVENTORS ONLY

SEE? FULL-SCALE *LIFE-MODEL DUCK DECOYS!*

FAMILY
LLERY

ER OUT
INVENTORS ONLY

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

I THINK THEY'RE *AMAZING!* BUT YOU SAID OUR *WHOLE* GANG ... WHERE'S *MY* LIFE-MODEL DUCK DECOY?

DUCK FAMILY GALLERY

KEEP OUT
INVENTORS ONLY

LYING ON THE COUCH OVE -- *OH, MY!* ER ... IT'S NOT HERE!

VANISHED, EH? YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T GIVE "ME" *AWAY?*

I'M *POSITIVE* ... I THINK SOMEONE *BORROWED* YOU WITHOUT ASKING. BUT WHO WOULD DO THAT?

ANYBODY ELSE KNOW ABOUT THESE DUMMIES?

ER ... MAYBE. IT WASN'T REALLY A SECRET.

NOT REALLY A SECRET, HUH? WELL, I THINK I'VE JUST DISCOVERED *ANOTHER* SECRET!

FIRST THING I'VE GOTTA DO IS CLEAR MY GOOD NAME WITH THE COPS! THEN ...

... I'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF SECRET ... NUMBER TWOOOO ... -ZZZZZZ!-

NEXT MORNING!

THERE WE GO! EVERY CONTRAPTION REMOVED AND STORED!

SO MY 313'S BACK TO BEING A PLAIN OLD RATTLETRAP!

313

BROTHER, THAT THING IS THE *RATTLIEST!* A REAL CLUNKER!

PERFECT! JUST HOW I NEED IT TO BE! THANKS LOADS, GYRO!

313

HA! NO ONE WOULD EVER SUSPECT MY *BELCHFIRE RUNABOUT* IS REALLY A ROAD-RAVAGING PHENOMENON!

AND IF THE COPS ASK ME WHERE I SPENT THE NIGHT, I'LL JUST SAY I WAS WITH GRANDMA DUCK AND THE KIDS!

WAIT ... AM I CRAZY, OR ARE *THOSE* THE KIDS NOW?

PUFF PUFF

313

LOOK, MEN! A CAR'S COMING!

THANK HEAVEN!

MAYBE WE CAN HITCH A RIDE!

I BET UNCA DONALD'S SOUND ASLEEP ...

... IN HIS SOFT, COZY BED, NOT THINKING ABOUT US ...

... KIDDY HOBOS ... →SIGH!←

HEY, MISTER ... WE'RE SUPER TIRED. WOULD YOU MIND TAKING US TO --?

GUESS WHO? *SURPRISE!*

313

HEY! UNCA DONALD!

HITCHHIKING'S DANGEROUS! WHY AREN'T YOU AT GRANDMA'S?

UM ... WELL ...

IT WAS ALL "MILK THE COWS! SHOE THE HORSES!"

"FEED THE PIGS AND PLUCK THE CHICKENS!"

"SWEEP THE DEN! CLEAN THE BARN!"

OUR HANDS HAVE MORE *CALLUSES* THAN *FINGERS!*

WELCOME TO *MY* CHILDHOOD! SO ... WHERE TO NOW?

UM ... WE KINDA HOPED WE COULD HEAD ... HOME.

YOU MEAN -- TO THE *"SEEDY DIVE"* OF AN *"ANARCHIC OUTLAW?"*

NO, UNCA DONALD! WE WERE WRONG!

REALLY, NOW?

JUNIOR WOODCHUCK'S HONOR, UNCA.

GOOD. SO HOW DO YOU PLAN TO *EARN* MY FORGIVENESS?

WE'LL MAKE YOU BREAKFAST, LUNCH *AND* DINNER ... IN *BED!*

WE'LL SWEEP, CLEAN, DUST, SCRUB AND RUB *EVERYTHING!*

EVERY DAY OF EVERY WEEK OF EVERY MONTH!

AND HOW ABOUT SOME *RESPECT* FOR ME AS A *PARENT?*

YES ...

SIR.

-SIGH!-

313

HEH. WITH *THAT* SETTLED, IT'S ON TO OTHER MATTERS ...

BY THE TIME DONALD ARRIVES HOME, IT'S THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY ...

THERE!

I'M GRILLING THAT DUCK *RIGHT NOW!*

BIGSHOT COPS! BUT THEY DON'T SCARE ME ANYMORE!

313

HEY, DUCK! WHERE WERE YOU LAST NIGHT?

TELL THE MAN, KIDS.

WE TOOK A MOONLIGHT HIKE, AND *HE* TRACKED US DOWN!

FROM THE MOUTH OF BABES, NO LESS!

JUNIOR WOODCHUCKS' HONOR!

WOOD-CHUCKS' HONOR ... →*HMM!*←

SERGEANT, THAT CAR OF HIS *FLEW* AND BURPED *GIANT* CLOUDS OF SMOKE! IT MOVED LIKE *LIGHTNING!* I *SWEAR!*

→*HMMF!*← IT *FLEW?* IN THAT CASE ...

HA HA HA!

WILL YOU LISTEN TO THAT GUY? →*HAR!*← IT BURPED *GIANT* CLOUDS OF SMOKE!

MAYBE ON ITS WAY TO A MECHANIC! *HA!*

SERGEANT, I *KNOW* WHAT I SAW! I *DEMAND* YOU CHECK IT OUT!

→*GRUMPF!*← YEAH! YOU'RE RIGHT!

DUCK, I'M GONNA GO OVER THIS HEAP WITH A FINE-TOOTH COMB! AND, SO HELP ME, IF I FIND *ONE WIDGET* THAT'S NOT STREET LEGAL --

DO YOUR BEST, OFFICER!

CONG

-HMMF!- BE AT THE STATION IN TWO HOURS! *GOT IT, DUCK?*

120 MINUTES, ROGER THAT! HUP HUP!

313

WITH MY AVENGER COSTUME HIDDEN IN GYRO'S LAB, THEY'LL NEVER FIGURE OUT *ANYTHING!*

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT, UNCA DONALD?

WHO KNOWS? COPS LIKE TO KEEP THEMSELVES BUSY, I GUESS.

7,200 SECONDS LATER ...

WELP! FORENSICS COULDN'T FIND ANYTHING WRONG WITH OL' 313, SO THEY GAVE IT BACK TO ME -- BUT NOT WITHOUT A GAGGLE OF DUMB EXCUSES!

YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT THE COPS, UNCA DONALD. THEY'RE --

HEY! LOOK! *UP THERE!*

POLICE

313

SEE DUCK AVENGER AT McDUCK'S HOUSE OF WAX

UNCA SCROOGE'S MUSEUM ...

CLEVER OLD BIRD!

313

HA HA! VISITORS WILL FLOCK TO ME LIKE FLIES TO HONEY! KA-CHING!

WHAT A *SMART COOKIE* HE IS! DUCK AVENGER SENDS THE CITY INTO CHAOS -- AND *CLEVER* UNCA SCROOGE IS RIGHT ON TIME TO *CASH IN!*

YEAH. CLEVER ...

A SMART COOKIE ... OR A *SMARTER SCHEMER?* I'LL BET MY LAST TAIL FEATHER THE FAKE AVENGER IS TIED *DIRECTLY* TO THIS MUSEUM MESS!

UNCA SCROOGE WANTED A *SUPERHERO* TO PROMOTE, AND *BAM* -- DUCK AVENGER APPEARS AT THE *PERFECT* TIME! OUR GRAND-UNCA IS *SO* LUCKY!

YEAH. *LUCKY.*

THAT AFTERNOON ...

WHAT A *MOB!*

THAT'S A LOT OF EXCITEMENT FOR JUST *ONE* GUY MADE OF WAX!

THIS TOWN IS JUST *WEIRD!*

AND "UNCA LUCKY" RAKES IT IN!

McDUCK'S HOUSE OF WAX

ADMISSION: $5

HEY, UNCLE SCROOGE! IS THAT PRICE FOR FAMILY?

FOR YOU, DONALD, IT'S ON THE HOUSE! I'M ROLLING IN DOUGH TODAY!

ADMISSIO
$5

"ROLLING IN DOUGH!" *FEH!* WHAT *GALL!* I GAVE HIM THE DUMB IDEA!

I SHOULDA TOLD HIM TO INVENT HIS *OWN* MASKED MALLARD!

HERE'S *DUCK AVENGER!*

HE *DOES* LOOK LIKE YOU, UNCA DONALD!

I WONDER WHO MADE THAT DUMMY!

DOGGONE IT, THAT'S WHAT *I* WANNA KNOW ...

... AND IF MY HUNCH IS CORRECT, I ALREADY HAVE THE ANSWER!

GEE, UNCA DONALD! LOOK AT ALL THE PAYING CUSTOMERS!

GOOD OL' "BUSINESS SAVVY" UNCLE SCROOGE ...

OK, BOYS! YOU'VE SEEN ENOUGH! I WANT YOU TO HEAD HOME!

YOU'RE STAYING?

YEAH, BOYS! I'M STAYING! NO QUESTIONS! *HOME!*

BUT ...

LATER, AT CLOSING TIME ...

HIYA, NEPHEW! STILL HERE?

YEAH. I WANTED TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR SUCCESS TODAY!

I MADE A FEW THOUSAND DOLLARS! NOT A BAD HAUL AT ALL!

AND *NO CUT* FOR ME?

WHY A CUT *"FOR YOU"*?

WAS IT NOT *I* WHO SUGGESTED A SUPERHERO?

AYE ... THE SUGGESTION *WAS* YOURS, WASN'T IT?

I'M WAITING!

DON'T START WITH ME ON *THIS* AGAIN, NEPHEW! I TOLD YOU -- *I DON'T PAY FOR FREE IDEAS!*

BUT ... MAYBE I *CAN* GIVE YOU A WAY TO *EARN* SOMETHING?

EARN? ME? HOW?

WELL! MY NEW AVENGER IS *SUPER* POPULAR, AND I WOULDN'T WANT ANYONE STEALING HIM ...

... SO IF YOU AGREE TO COME HERE EVERY NIGHT AND *GUARD* HIM, I'LL PAY YOU WELL.

JUST ... QUIET! STOP!

YOU WANNA *PAY ME* TO GUARD A DUMMY THAT NEARLY *RUINED MY LIFE?*

YOU *REFUSE?*

UNCLE, I *INDIGNANTLY* REFUSE!

GOOD. NOW MY CONSCIENCE WON'T BOTHER ME.

I THOUGHT I'D OFFER YOU "YOUR CUT," BUT IF YOU REFUSE IT ... TOO BAD FOR YOU!

BESIDES ... YOU'RE A LILY-LIVERED *CHICKEN!* I'LL BET YOU THINK WAX MUSEUMS ARE *HAUNTED!* THAT'S WHY I HAVE A *SECOND* OPTION!

SO THAT'S IT, THEN? NO CASH FOR ME?

NOT. ONE. RED. CENT.

AND THAT'S YOUR *FINAL* WORD?

NO! MY FINAL WORD IS -- OUT!

FINE!

INDIGNANTLY SO! GET OUT!

YOW!

GREEDY OLD SO-AND-SO ... THIS IS A NEW LOW! YOU'LL PAY FOR --

-OOF!-

HEY!

EGAD, CUZ! YOU'RE ALWAYS UNDERFOOT!

YOU'RE HERE? WHY?

UNCLE SCROOGE NEEDS A SMART MAN FOR AN IMPORTANT AND VIRTUALLY WORK-FREE JOB! NATURALLY, HE CALLED ME!

TO GUARD HIS DESPICABLE DOLL?

EXACTLY! WHY SO INTERESTED?

PHOOEY! THAT OL' WINDBAG OFFERED *ME* THE JOB, AND I REFUSED!

OF COURSE YOU DID, YOU *SPINELESS SLUG!* IT TAKES *GUTS* TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN A *SPOOKY* WAX MUSEUM!

LAZY LUCKNIKS HAVE *GUTS*, DO THEY?

MORE THAN *YOU*, YOU LOW-LUCK CLUCK! I DON'T BELIEVE IN GHOSTS, FOR ONE!

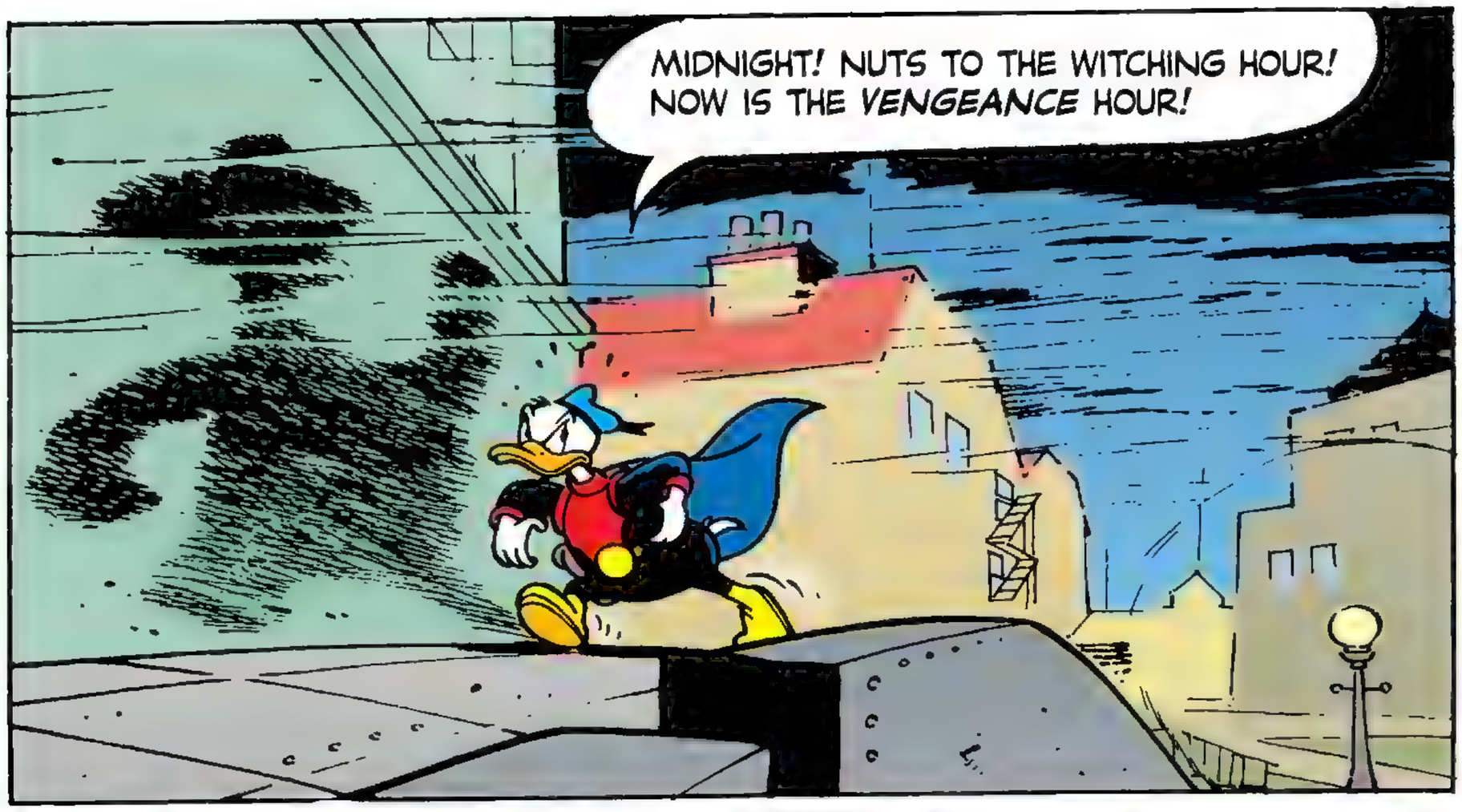
NOW SCRAM, SAM! I'M NOT *LAZY* WHEN IT COMES TO ONE-UPPING YOU!

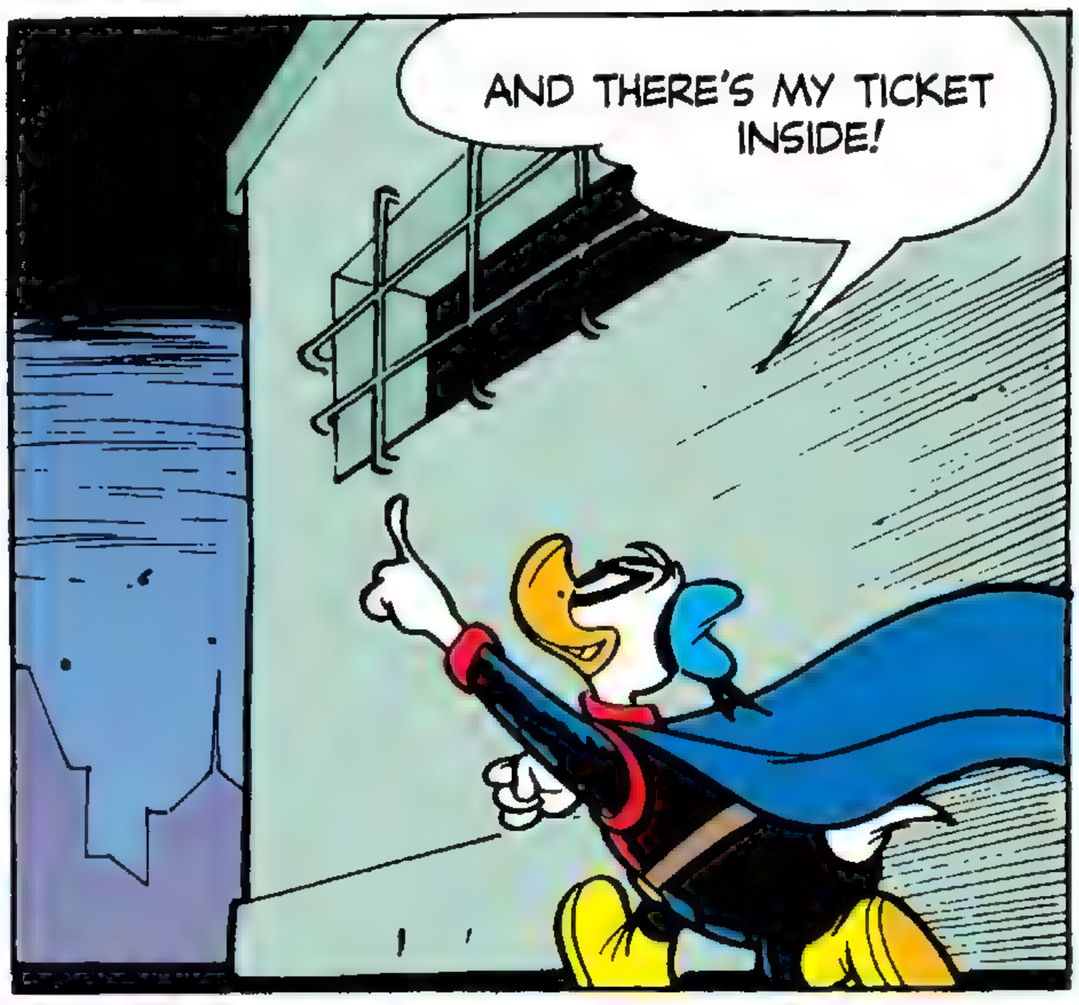
SWAT

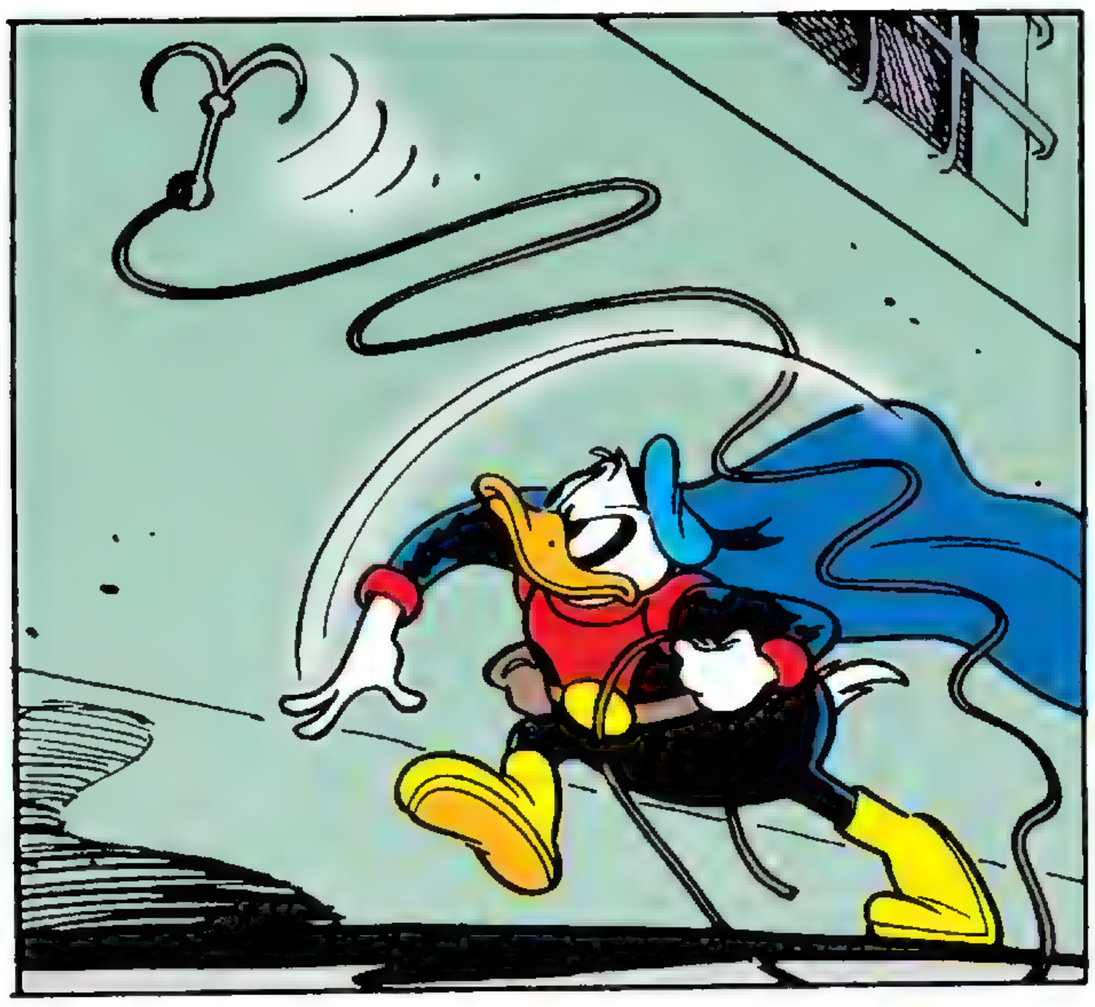
SO! HE AIN'T AFRAID O' NO GHOSTS, EH? WE'LL SEE ABOUT *THAT!*

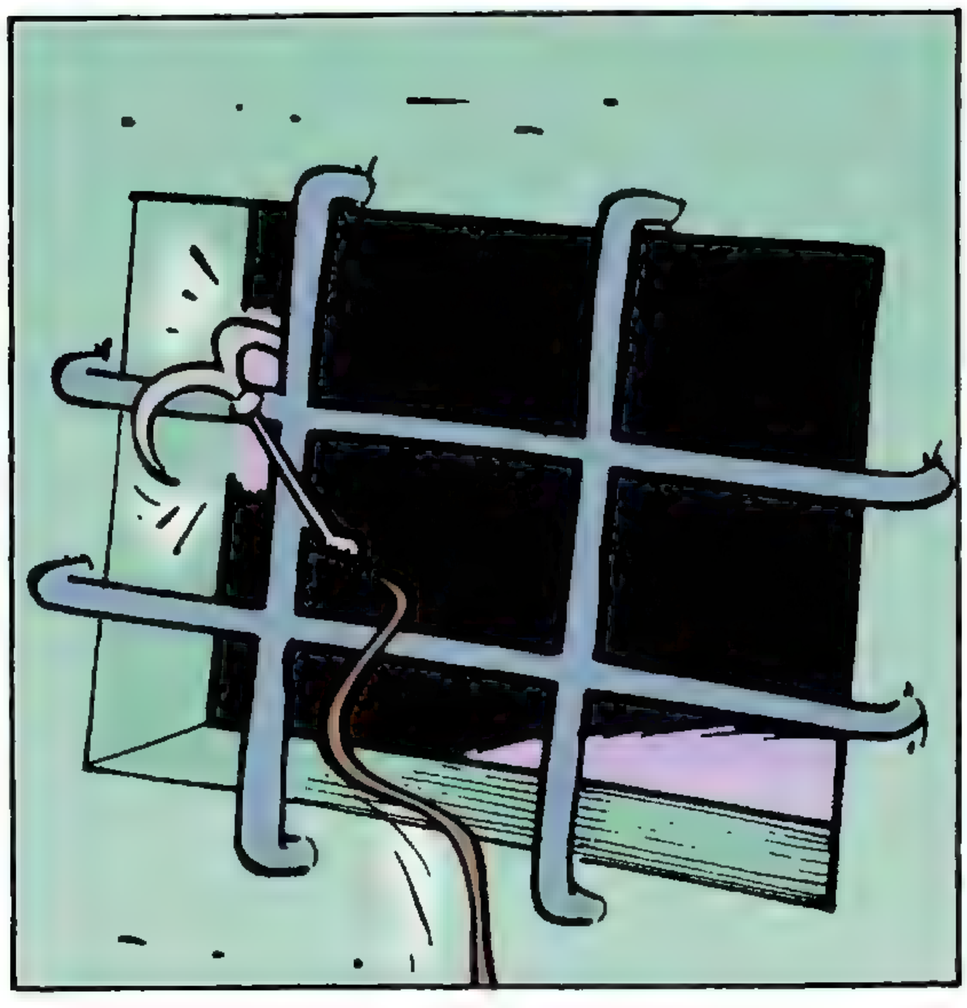
TIME FOR PAYBACK IN *SPADES!* UNCLE SCROOGE AND GLADSTONE HAVE *BOTH* PUSHED ME *TOO FAR!*

THAT NIGHT ... AFTER A QUICK VISIT TO GYRO ...









SOLID *STEEL* MELTS AT MY AVENGERLY MIGHT!

ZZZZ ZZZZ ZZ

I'M *IN!*

ZIP

IT'S JUST *YOU* AND *ME* NOW, *GLADSTONE GANDER!*

AN OLD, BUT EFFECTIVE, RUSE! LET'S TRICK HIS LUCK A BIT ...

PLINK

WHAT'S THAT NOISE?

HELLOO -- OO?

TIME FOR ME TO *STRIKE!*

OH ... JUST A COIN?

PROBABLY FELL FROM SOME VISITOR'S POCKET. *FEH!* I DON'T BEND OVER FOR LESS THAN $100!

THEN AGAIN, THIS DARKNESS *DOES* MAKE ME NERVOUS ...

IT'S NOT THE DARK. IT'S YOUR *SOUL*.

WH-WHO SAID THAT?!

WH-WHO S-SAID IT? **WHO?!**

YOUR VOICE TREMBLES ... *HEROIC* GUARDIAN.

WH-WH-WH --?

PAT

WHAA --?

RECOGNIZE *ME?*

A D-D-DUMMY?

NO! *DUCK AVENGER!* IN THE *FLESH!*

ON YOUR KNEES, VARLET!

WH-WH-WHAT ARE Y-YOU --?

DON'T WORRY, FANCY PANTS! I'M JUST MAKING AN APPOINTMENT FOR YOU WITH...

... THE *SANDMAN!* G'NIGHT, SLEEPYHEAD! *HA HA HA!*

WH-WHAAA ...? OOOOH!

NOW TO SEE IF MY SUSPICIONS ARE CORRECT!

BEND, YOU BOGUS AVENGER!

HA! I KNEW IT! NOT A REAL WAX SCULPTURE -- JUST A PLASTIC MODEL COVERED IN A THIN WAX COATING!

SKRITCH!

UNCLE SCROOGE SWIPED GYRO'S LIFE-MODEL DUCK DECOY! I FIGURED ...

HEY! →GASP!← RADIO WIRES AND JETS -- LIKE THE BOYS' REMOTE CONTROL DRONE! IT'S THE FAKE AVENGER ... I WAS RIGHT ABOUT THAT, TOO!

TIME TO BLOW THIS SCAM *WIDE OPEN!*

BONK

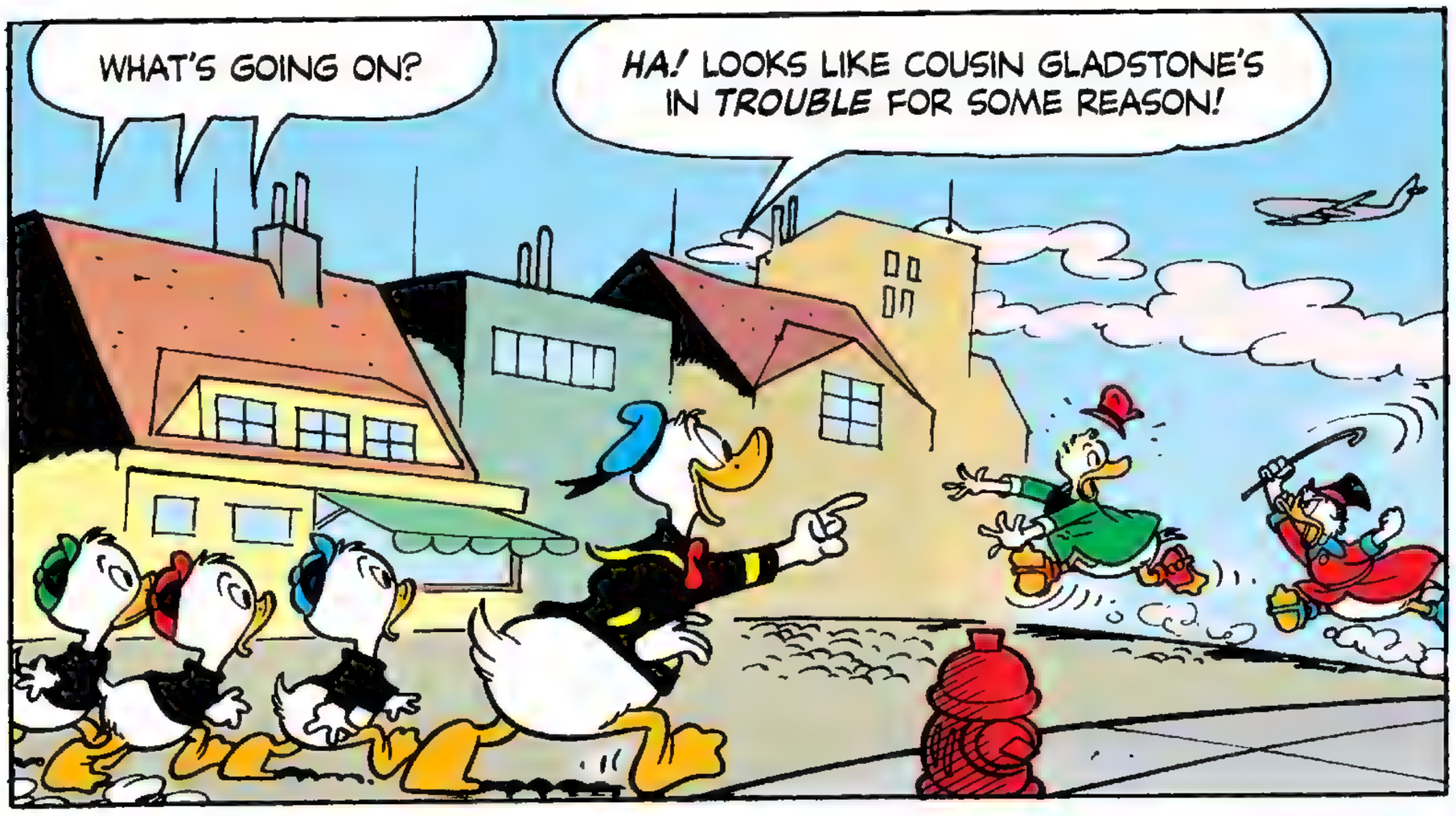
GREAT GIGAHONK! THOUSANDS OF GREENBACKS! SCROOGE MADE *THIS* MUCH MONEY *TODAY?!*

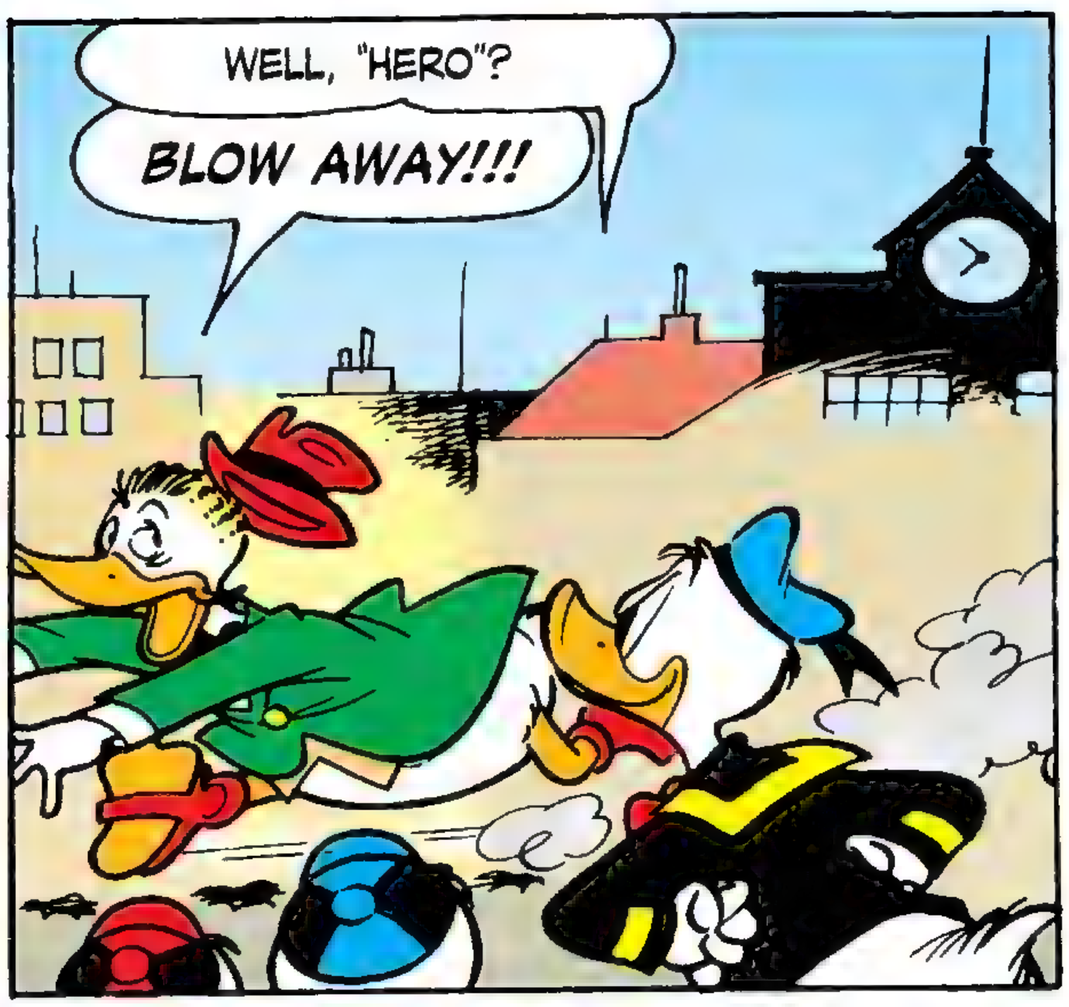
THAT'S WHY HE NEEDED A NIGHT WATCHMAN! NOT TO GUARD A *STOLEN* AVENGER DECOY -- JUST HIS *ILL-GOTTEN GAINS!*

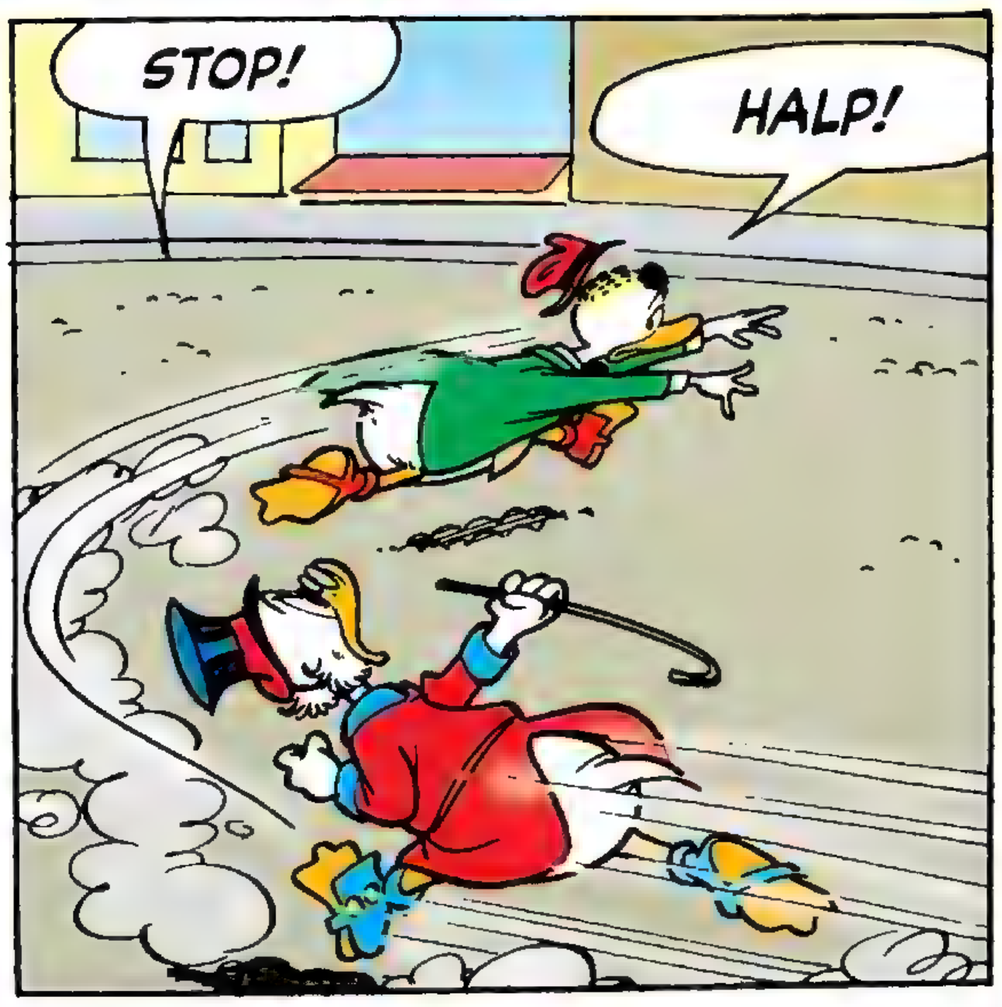
THAT SKINFLINT MADE *$400,000* BY RUINING MY REP, RAIDING GYRO, AND *PANICKING* THE TOWN! IT'S TIME FOR DUCK AVENGER TO *AVENGE!*

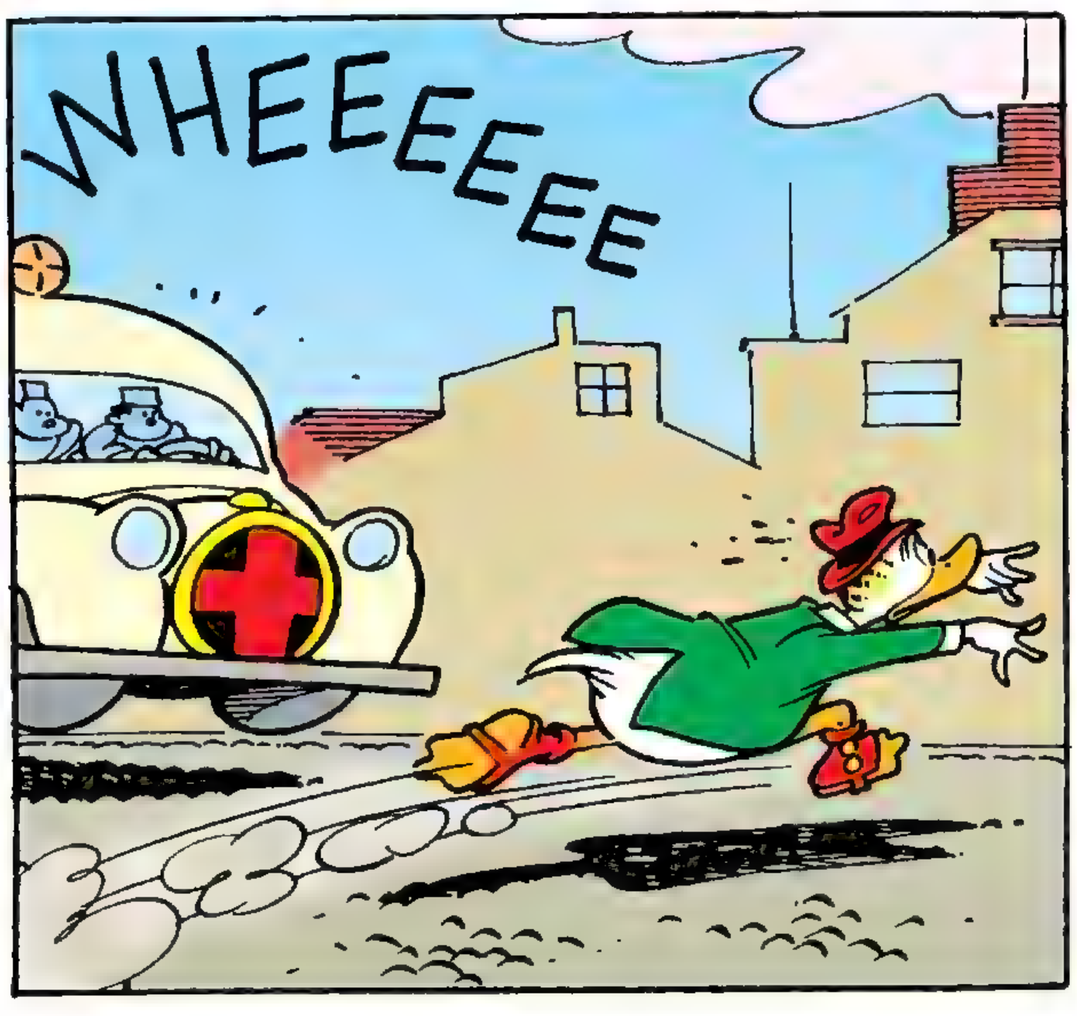
BUT FOR THAT TO HAPPEN, I'LL NEED GYRO'S HUMBLE HELP ONCE AGAIN!

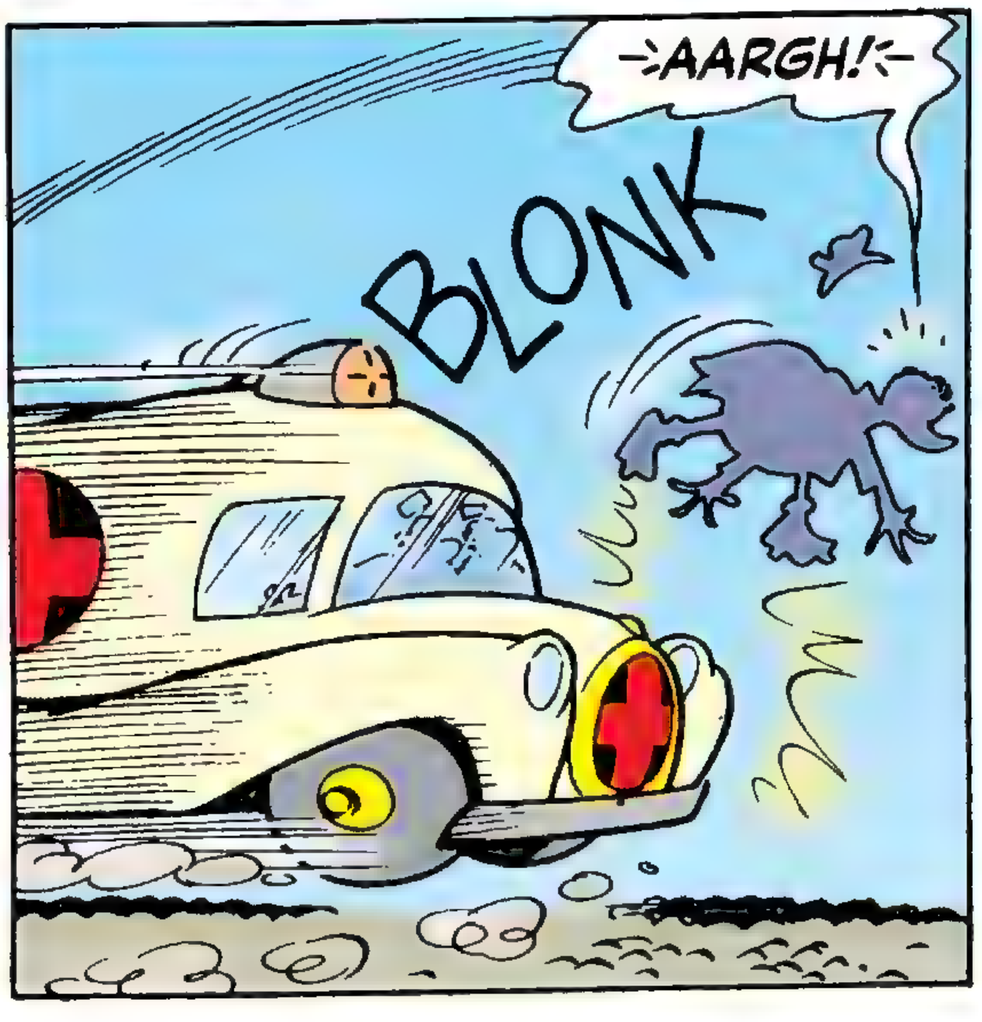
THE NEXT DAY ...


WHAT'S GOING ON?
HA! LOOKS LIKE COUSIN GLADSTONE'S IN TROUBLE FOR SOME REASON!


WELL, "HERO"?
BLOW AWAY!!!


STOP!
HALP!


WHEEEEEEE


-:AARGH!:-
BLONK

WHAT *FREAK* GETS HIT BY AN *EMPTY, WAITING AMBULANCE?!* TALK ABOUT A *LITERAL LUCKY BREAK!*

LUCKY IS *RIGHT!* HIS MEDICAL BILLS ARE *PAID* -- AND AFTER TWO MONTHS IN THE HOSPITAL PASS, I WON'T *REMEMBER* TO POUND HIM SILLY!

WELL? WHAT HAPPENED?

A *MESS*, THAT'S WHAT! DUCK AVENGER *STOLE* HIS WAX DOUBLE AND *STOLE MY MONEY!*

REALLY? →TSK-TSK!← NOW HOW'D HE GO AND DO THAT?

→*ROAR!*← *WITH A REPULSIVE LIE!!!*

GLADSTONE SAYS THAT DUMB PUPPET *GASSED* HIM!

LIVING MANNEQUINS? HOW *ABSURD!*

NO IMAGINATION, THAT GLADSTONE.

FORGET *HIM!* NOW *I'LL* HAVE TO *CLOSE MY MUSEUM* FOR *LACK OF VISITORS!*

SERVES YOU RIGHT!

IT SURE DOES! *YOU* EXPLOITED THE AVENGER, SO *HE* EXPLOITED *YOU!*

→SIGH!← POOR, MISERABLE ME. ALL THAT MONEY ... *GONE* LIKE A *GHOST!*

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU DON'T MAKE YOUR MONEY *SQUARE!*

TOUGHER THAN THE TOUGHIES, SMARTER THAN THE SMARTIES ... BROKER THAN THE BROKIES!

WHOA! LOOK! UP IN THE SKY!

IT'S A BIRD *AND* A PLANE? NO, THAT'S THE *AVENGER!*

DUMPING ADVERTISING FLYERS? *NO, WAIT!* THAT'S ...

BLESS MY KILTS! *FIVE-DOLLAR BILLS!*

HOW ABOUT THAT? DUCK AVENGER'S RETURNING YOUR ILL-GOTTEN GAINS TO THE PEOPLE!

SURE ENOUGH ...

THANKS, AVENGER!

WHOOPEE!

MONEY!

MONEY! MINE! MINE!

-:SNICKER!:-

GOOD OL' *GYRO* DID EXACTLY WHAT I ASKED HIM TO DO!

AND I KNOW *HE* WON'T SAY A WORD! HE'S THE AVENGER'S PAL -- AND HE'S KEEPING HIS DECOY AFTER THIS!

AND SO, THE "FAKE AVENGER" FLIES AWAY ...

THANKS, AVENGER!

COME BACK SOON!

BRAVO!

OUR HERO!

CLAP CLAP CLAP

UNCA DONALD! *YOU* DIDN'T TAKE ANY MONEY!

NAH, TOO MUCH EFFORT.

YOU *BELLY-SCRATCHER!* YOU CAN'T EVEN BEND OVER FOR A FEW BUCKS!

C'MON, UNK! YOU KNOW I'M *HOPELESS!*

HOPELESS? YOU'RE JUST A HUMBLE *BUMBLING DUCK* -- PLUCKLESS, LUCKLESS *AND* BUCKLESS!

I IS WHAT I IS. I'LL TAKE VANILLA!

YOU'RE *CERTAINLY* NO *DUCK AVENGER!*

THE END!

Image courtesy The Walt Disney Company Italia.

A Dinner With Disney Masters

This photo was taken in Burbank, California, at a Walt Disney Company dinner for employees of the Italian Disney comics licensee Mondadori, in September 1975.

Seated, clockwise from bottom left: staff artist Adriana Cristina, editor Gaudenzio Capelli, editor Elisa Penna (co-creator of Duck Avenger), Disney comics artist Giovan Battista Carpi, unidentified interpreter, Garé Barks, Carl Barks, Romano Scarpa, staff artist Franco Lostaffa (partly visible), Disney comics artist Marco Rota, and Disney comics artist Giuseppe Perego.

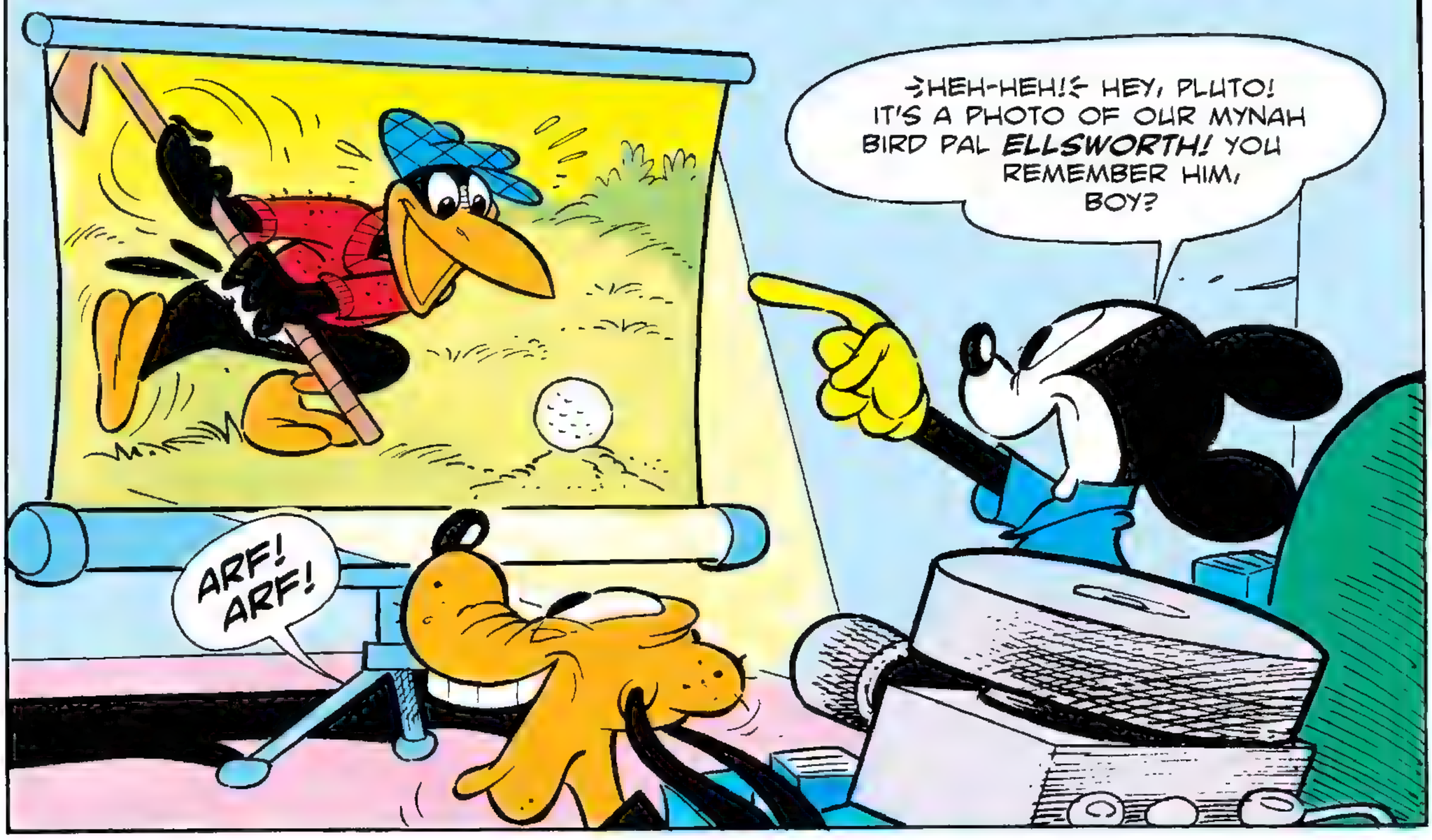
Standing, left to right: editor Massimo Rossi, an unidentified Disney executive, managing editor Mario Gentilini, Mondadori executive Raimondo Mattioli, and Mondadori staff writer Ercole Arseni. Portrait on wall: Walt Disney.

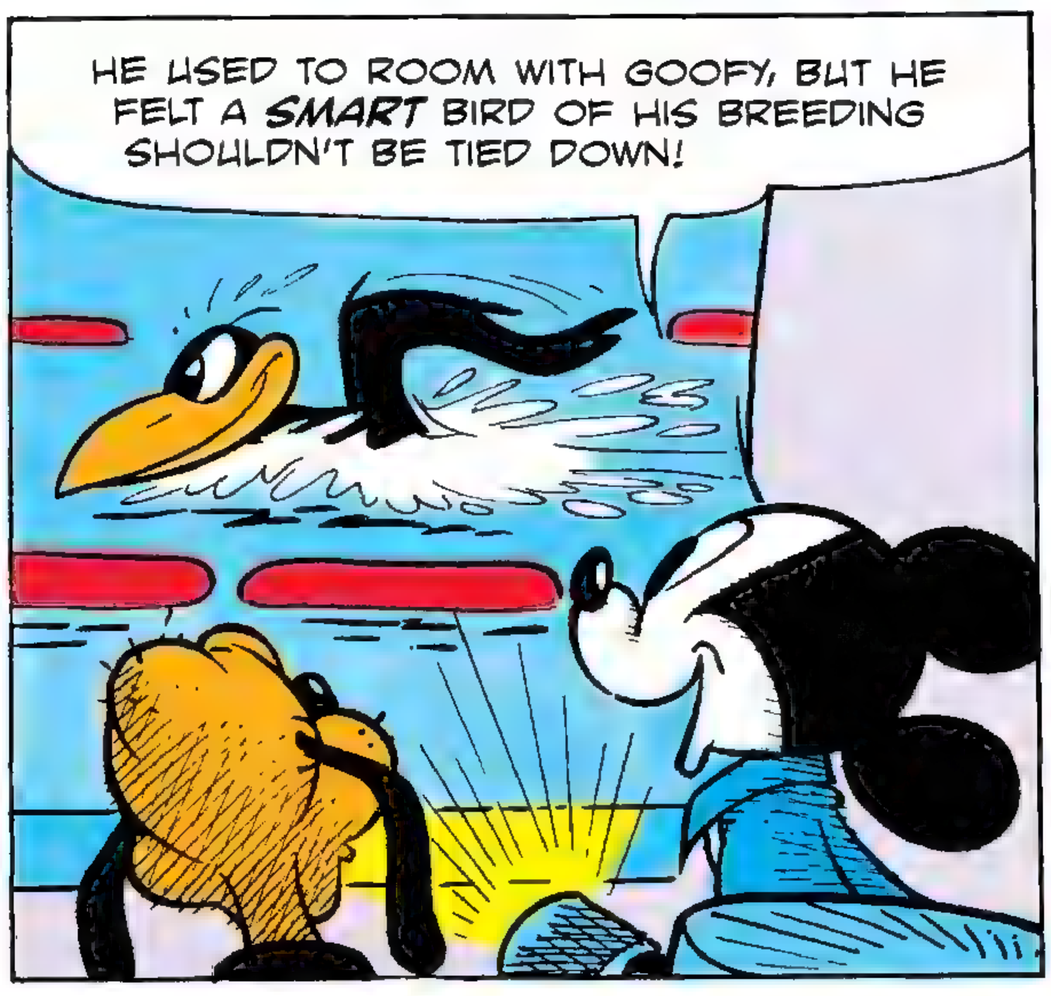
For more on this historic gathering, see page 98.

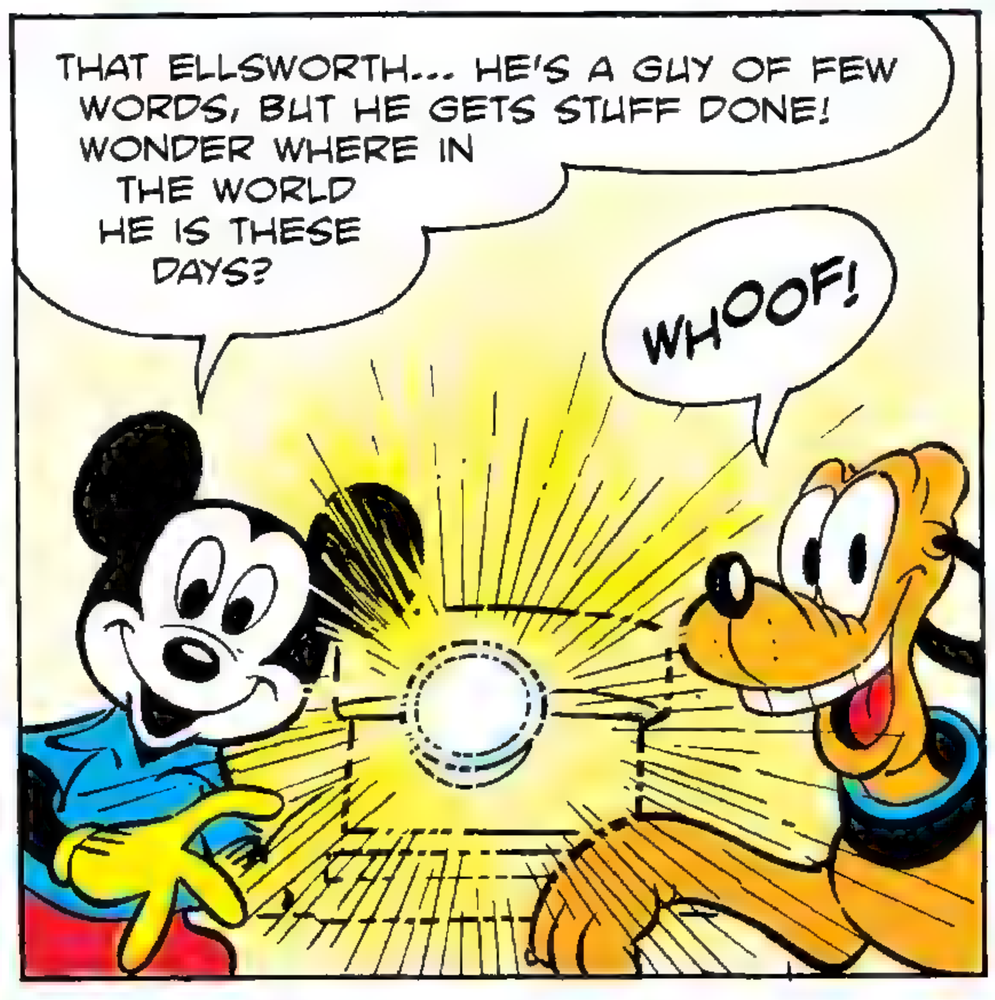
WALT DISNEY'S

Mickey Mouse

in "ELLSWORTH'S ORNERY ORPHAN"







STORY AND ART BY ROMANO SCARPA • INKS BY SANDRO ZEMOLIN • TRANSLATION AND DIALOGUE BY THAD KOMOROWSKI WITH DAVID GERSTEIN • EDITED BY DAVID GERSTEIN

SWELL PHOTO, HUH?... EASY THERE, FELLA! DON'T KICK OVER THE SLIDE PROJECTOR!

BONK!

EH? I DON'T REMEMBER TAKING THIS ONE! SO LIFELIKE...

I SHOULD ***HOPE*** SO! I LOVE THE ***SPOTLIGHT,*** MICKEY, BUT ***THIS*** IS A TRIFLE HARD ON THE EYES!

ARF! ARF! ARF!

ELLSWORTH! IN PERSON! HOW YA DOIN', OL' BIRD?

FINE, SIR! AND ***FINER*** SINCE I GOT HERE!

YOU'VE BEEN GONE ***AGES!*** WHAT'VE YOU BEEN UP TO?

WHAT ***HAVEN'T*** I BEEN UP TO? THERE'S A MILLION STORIES TO TELL...

BUT FIRST THINGS FIRST! I— ER, BROUGHT YOU ***SOMETHING...*** FROM MY TRAVELS!

?

AW, THAT'S GREAT, ELLSWORTH! BUT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE!

SHOULDN'T I? UH—WELL, IT'S NOT EXACTLY A ***SOUVENIR...*** IT'S...

...***MY SON!*** ÷SIGH!÷

YOUR... ***WHAT?!?***

WHOO-WOO! CLEAR THE WAY!

ARF! ARF!

WHOO-WOO! GANGWAY FOR THE FOUR-LEGGED EXPRESS!... I'M AN ***ENGINEER,*** I AM, I AM!

?!

ELLROY!

Welcome

HEY! MY PROJECTOR! TH' SLIDES! THAT KID'S CRAZY!

C'MON, POOCHIE! WE NEED TO BEAT THE 5:15!

URF! URF!

ELLROY! WHAT HAVE I TOLD YA? LET'S NOT SOW CATASTROPHE, SHALL WE?

SHALL WE, POP?

YOU BETTER GET OUT WHILE TH' GETTING'S GOOD, PLUTO!

WURF...

IF WE'RE GOING TO STAY WITH MICKEY... ⇒AHEM!⇐ WE NEED TO ACT LIKE PROPER INDOOR GENTLEBIRDS... AND NOT TRASH HIS HOUSE!

I WASN'T TRASHIN', I WAS TRAININ'!

⇒HRMPH!⇐ WELL, MICKEY... MEET MY BOY... ELLROY!

H'LO!

YOUR BOY! SO, THEN, HE'S...

A MYNAH BIRD, YES—AND A CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK! EVEN IF HE *IS* A LITTLE ROUGH AROUND THE EDGES...

...YOU'D BE A LITTLE ROUGH, TOO, IF YOU HAD HIS WILD UPBRINGING... AND GREW UP WHERE HE DID!

I'M SURE YOU'RE A SWELL POP, ELLSWORTH!

WELL, I'M SURE ***YOU'LL*** BE A SWELL ***HELP,*** MICKEY, WHILE WE...

=EEK!= AUNT MELINDA'S CHINA!

ELLROY! CAN YOU ***COOL*** IT FOR A ***SECOND?!***

RELAX! I HAD ***DINNER*** IN THE OVEN BEFORE YOU GOT HERE! DIG IN!

OBOY! NOW ***THAT'S*** HOSPITALITY!

YUM! YUM!

GEE! YOU'RE A REAL GENTLE-MOUSE, HUH, MISTER? THANKS *LOADS!*

SEE, ELLSWORTH? YOU'VE DONE A FINE JOB OF PARENTING ALREADY!

YEP! IT'S TAKEN ALL MY CUNNING... BUT WHAT RICH REWARDS WE FATHERS REAP!

MMM-MMM!

WHAT TH' HECK?

CALL ME AN OSTRICH, BUT I'D RATHER NOT LOOK!

DUM-DE-DUM...

WELL, AT LEAST HE'S NOT SLOPPING IT ALL OVER YOUR *FLOOR!*

ELLSWORTH, THIS ONE'S ALL YOU!

KIDS! *KIDS!*... WHY CAN'T THEY BE LIKE *WE* WERE?

⇒TSK!⇐ NO NEED TO BLOW A GASKET!

...Y' CAN LEAVE *THAT* TO *ME!* I WONDER WHAT'S *LEFT*...

⇒SIGH!⇐ TH' *CANNED* FOOD, I GUESS!

OOH! LOOKS GOOD TO ME, MICKEY!

SO WHAT'S TH' STORY, ELLSWORTH, HUH? ABOUT ELLROY, I MEAN!

WELL—IT ALL STARTED IN THE *SAHARA,* CHUM! AT A *LEGION FORT!*

YOU?! IN TH' *FOREIGN LEGION?*

"SURE! I'VE GOT THAT *ADVENTURE-SEEKIN'* SPIRIT— AN' *THEY'RE* TH' ADVENTUROUS *DESERT POLICE!* THERE WAS JUST ONE PROBLEM..."

I'M NOT SURE I *LIKE* GUARDING OUR FORT *ALONE!* I MEAN—MAJOR HASSAN IS *RIGHT* TO HAVE FAITH IN MY GENIUS... BUT *STILL!*

A *WEEK* HAS GONE BY *WITHOUT INCIDENT!* I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK CROOKS ARE ABOUT TO STRIKE!

'SPECIALLY WHEN WE'RE *GUARDING* THIS SHIPMENT OF RARE, PRICEY *BAVARIAN BARLEY* FOR THE SULTAN OF SWAT!

=AWK!= *LEAPIN' LIZARDS!* THE *LIGHT'S* NOT *TRICKING* MY OLD EYEBULBS, IS IT?

NOPE! DEFINITELY *NOT* A MIRAGE!

IT'S *MOZAMBEAK* AND HIS *BIRD BUCCANEERS*—FLYING IN FORMATION AND ARMED TO *RAID!*

WELL... ADMISSION AIN'T FREE! I'LL MAKE THESE PIRATES PAY PLENTY!

VOOOSHH

YARRR! THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, SAND-LUBBER!... TRY THIS ON YOUR FORT STOREROOM!

IF WE DON'T GET YER GRAIN, ME HEARTY— TH' SUNSTROKE WILL GET YOU!

BOOM-BA-BOOM

YEAH... RIGHT! IT'S MY MOVE NOW! AN' WHILE I'M TOO MERCIFUL TO HURTCHA—

BAM
BLAM
BANG BAM
...I'M HAPPY TO SCARE YA!
SQUIT!
RAAK!
AWRK!
ENJOYING MY ANTI-AIRCRAFT, ARE WE? SEE YOU NEVER!
...I HOPE! THOSE PIRATES DON'T KNOW MY AMMUNITION'S NEAR GONE— BUT I DO!
AND THIS IS THE LAST OF MY MINERAL WATER! =GULP!=
CRACK
H_2O
TO THE LEGION! =NOMN! NOMN!=
GLUB!
GLUB!
H_2O

IF THOSE SKY-SWABS RETURN BEFORE I GET SOME ***RELIEF***... THEY'LL MAKE A ***DISHCLOTH*** OF MY HANDSOME UNIFORM! FOR A ***START!***

AND THAT POOR SULTAN'S BARLEY WILL ***CHANGE OWNERSHIP*** BY UNLAWFUL MEANS!

NO MORE WEAPONS... JUST THIS ***MOLASSES!*** IF I WAS FIGHTING A STACK OF FLAPJACKS, MAYBE, BUT...

MOLASSES

WAITAMINUTE! THAT'S ***IT!*** ONCE AGAIN, MY RAZOR-KEEN MIND COMES TO MY RESCUE!

SNAP

JUST FILL A ***SACK*** UP— LIKE ***SO!***

VLOOP

A LITTLE CREATIVE WRITING... *DUM-DE-DUM!*... AND WE GOT SOMETHING OL' MOZAMBEAK WILL LIKE EVEN ***MORE!***

S

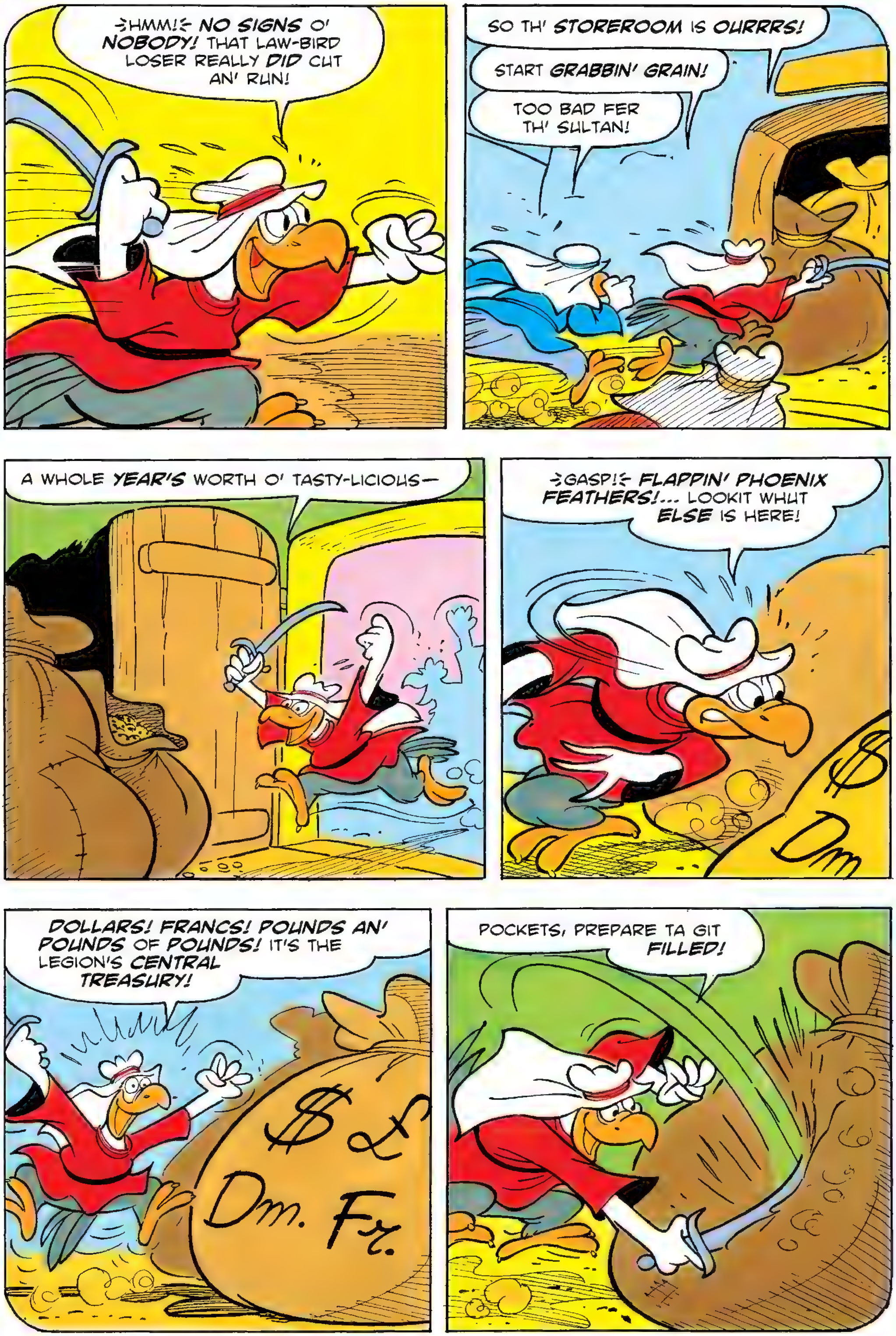
THE TRAP IS SET! NOW WE PLAY THE WAITING GAME—

=WHOOP!= NO *TIME!* HERE THEY COME ALREADY!

WELL... THE SOONER THE BETTER! HERE GOES NOTHIN'!

SHOULDER ARMS, YOU BILGE BUZZARD! COME BACK AN' *FIGHT!*

FORT A-HOOOYY!


⇒HMM!⇐ NO SIGNS O' NOBODY! THAT LAW-BIRD LOSER REALLY DID CUT AN' RUN!
SO TH' STOREROOM IS OURRRS!
START GRABBIN' GRAIN!
TOO BAD FER TH' SULTAN!
A WHOLE YEAR'S WORTH O' TASTY-LICIOUS—
⇒GASP!⇐ FLAPPIN' PHOENIX FEATHERS!... LOOKIT WHUT ELSE IS HERE!
DOLLARS! FRANCS! POUNDS AN' POUNDS OF POUNDS! IT'S THE LEGION'S CENTRAL TREASURY!
$ £ Dm. Fr.
POCKETS, PREPARE TA GIT FILLED!

AWP!? MONEY MELTED TO MOLASSES? NO—IT'S A TRAP!

BLOOSH

WE BEEN FLIM-FLAMMED! HURRY, BUCCANEERS! PULL ME LOOSE!

PLUTCH

!

!

SORRY, CAP'N! NO CAN DO!

AVAST! NO HONOR AMONG THIEVES?

WE'D ONLY WIND UP AS STUCK-UP AS YOU!

COME BACK HERE, YOU RACKIN'-FRACKIN' COCKROACHES! PUFF! ...OR GO DIE O' THIRST SOMEPLACE! FINE!

LIKE YOU SAID... FINE! ENJOYING OUR "TREASURY," MOZAMBEAK?

EEAWK! YOU! SO YER TH' SWAB WHO TRAPPED ME, YUH LOW-DOWN GALOOT!

I THOUGHT YOU LEGIONNAIRES WUZ ***NOBLE***-TYPE ***COPS!*** NOT ***UNFAIR AMBUSHERS!***

⇒TSK-TSK!⇐ ***ALL'S FAIR*** IN LOVE AN' WAR... AND THIS AIN'T ***LOVE!***

AWW! BUT I ***HATE*** BEIN' ALL STUCK UP! G'WAN... PULL ME ***LOOSE!*** I'LL BE A ***GOOD***-TYPE PRISONER! I'LL BE YER BEST FRIEND!

QUITE THE FIBBER, AREN'T WE?

⇒UGH!⇐ BUT WHEN I PUT MYSELF IN ***YOUR*** PLACE... I CAN'T LET A FELLOW BIRD'S FEATHERS STAY GUNKED!

AVAST! I LIKE WHAT YUH SAY, SWAB...

...ABOUT ***PUTTIN' YERSELF*** IN ***MY PLACE!*** MAY I HAVE THIS DANCE?

⇒EEAWK!⇐

YANK!

NO FAIR, YOU PIRATE!

SPLASH!

WHUT'D YOU JEST SAY... ***ALL'S FAIR*** IN LOVE AN' WAR! ***AN' PIRACY,*** ME HEARTY!

YOU AIRBORNE DESERT SCOURGE! I'LL...!

TEMPER, TEMPER! YER IN TH' *SAME JAM* I AM!

UGH! OF ALL TH' BONEHEADED PLANS I COULDA MADE...

DON'T BE MODEST, LANDLUBBER! IT TAKES *SKILL* TO TRAP *YERSELF!*

PRIVATE ELLSWORTH! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!?

MAJOR HASSAN! WHAT A BREAK! BETTER LATE THAN NEVER, TO PHRASE A COIN!

⇒*AWK!*⇐ COMPETENT BACKUP!

BUT WHAT...?

NEVER MIND THE SMALL TALK, CHIEF! WE NEED TO SPIFF UP OUR *EXECUTIVE SUITE* FOR OUR *GUEST* HERE! *MOZAMBEAK,* LEADER OF BIRD BUCCANEERS...

WANNABE PILFERER OF GRAIN, TREASURE— AND *MOLASSES!*

⇒*YAAAARGH!*⇐

"SO JUSTICE WAS SERVED! A FEW DAYS LATER, THE LEGION COURT PRONOUNCED MOZAMBEAK'S HEAVY SENTENCE..."

FOR ASSORTED ACTS OF AIR PIRACY, THE LEGION SENTENCES YOU TO *THIRTY MONTHS IN THE CAGE!*

TAKE HIM AWAY!

THIRTY MONTHS! BAH! IT'LL TAKE LONGER TO GET THE MOLASSES OUT OF MY FEATHERS!

=GRRRR!= YOU AN' ME BOTH!

THE CAGE

=HMPH!= *YOU* CAN JUST SIT PRETTY ON THE LEGION'S TIME AND DIME...

...AND *THINK* ABOUT WHAT YOU'VE DONE! HAVE FUN!

=SIGH!=

I DON'T MIND SO MUCH, VARMINT... BUT WHO'S GONNA *FEED* MY POOR LI'L *ADOPTED FLEDGLING,* OVER IN YONDER RUINS? YAARRR...

EH?
ADOPTED... FLEDGLING?

SIGH

TO *WHOM* ARE YOU REFERRING?

MY *SON,* DADBURN IT! IN TH' OL' TEMPLE BESIDE TH' BLUFFRA OASIS! WAITIN' FOR HIS DADDY... EXCEPT FATHER, DEAR FATHER *AIN'T* COMIN' HOME!

SURELY YOUR *CREW* WILL LOOK AFTER HIM!

ARRR, THAT'S JUST IT! THOSE GALOOTS WOULD SOONER LET 'IM *STARVE!* THAT'S WHY I KEPT 'IM HIDDEN OFF BY HIS LONESOME!

WELL, WE CAN KEEP HIM HERE, AT THE FORT...

URK! AN' LET 'IM SEE HIS OL' MAN IN *CHAINS?* I'D SOONER *DIE!*

YOU SHOULDA THOUGHT OF THAT *BEFORE* BECOMING A BANDIT!

I'M JUST A POOR BIRD WHO WENT A *LITTLE* ASTRAY!

BAH! I JOINED THE LEGION TO BE A *MAN...* NOT A SISSY! SIGH ME A RIVER FOR ALL I CARE!

SIGH

PAY NO MINDS TO THAT, ELLZY! C'MON, IT'S YOUR TURN!

SIGH

WHATSAMATTER, BOIDBRAIN? YA LET DOWN YER GUARD AN' *LOST!*

SIGH

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR *NERVES OF STEEL,* ELLZY?

!

VIVA LA LÉGION

S-SIGH

MY EARDRUMS RUNNETH OVER! LET'S *FINISH* THIS, SHALL WE?

ALL RIGHT, *SPILL!* WHERE EXACTLY *IS* THIS SQUIRT, AND WHAT DOES HE *EAT?*

EH?!

OH! TH' KID EATS NOTHIN' BUT HEALTHY *PACKAGED FOODS...* THAT'S ALL WE CAN USUALLY PILLAGE FOR HIM, YOU KNOW!

TH' MORE *BALANCED* AN' *HOMOGENIZED*—TH' BETTER!

YEAH, YEAH! AND NEAR THE BLUFFRA OASIS, YOU SAID!

DELICATE STOMACH, EH, PRIVATE ELLSWORTH?

I PAID FOR FOOD, NOT *INANE COMMENTARY,* PRIVATE BERTRAM!

LEGION TRADING POST

LEGIONNAIRE GOODS

→PANT!← I'M NOT SURE WHEN I CAN GET BACK HERE, SO I TOOK ALL THE GRUB I COULD CARRY... LEAVING MY *SUPPLIES* BEHIND!

HERE'S THE BLUFFRA OASIS... AND THE TEMPLE! PITY I'M TOO POOPED TO ADMIRE THE ARCHAEOLOGY!

WELL... *INWARD!* NOW TO FIND THE KID!

AHA! PINT-SIZED CHATTER! BET IT'S HIM!

=ACK!= A HOMICIDAL NEST OF *SCORPIONS!*

SECOND TIME'S THE CHARM...

WRONG *AGAIN!* ALMOST LOST A FEW TAILFEATHERS THERE!

HEY, LITTLE GUY! WHERE THE HECK *ARE* YA? *=CRAW! CRAW!=* I'M FRIEND, NOT *FOE,* GET ME? *=CREEK! CREEK!=*

CREEK! CREEK!

=AWK!= BUT WHAT EXACTLY IS *THIS?*

NOISES *THAT* UNHOLY... IT'S GOTTA BE A *COBRA* AT THE VERY LEAST!

CRRAWK! CRREEK!

FLAP FLAP FLAP

!

WHY, IT'S HIM! A LITTLE MYNAH BIRD... JUST LIKE ME!

CREEK!

HOW'S IT GOING, YOU LITTLE DICKENS? HAVE SOME *NOURISHMENT* COURTESY OF THE LEGION.. AND YOUR POP!

CRREEEK!

HE'S GONNA BE... *AWAY* FOR AWHILE, AND...

...NAH! HE'S TOO YOUNG TO UNDERSTAND, ANYWAY!

GURGLE! GULP!

GLAD YOU'RE ENJOYING YOUR PICNIC, LI'L BUDDY! BUT TRY AND CALM DOWN A SMIDGE... AND *TASTE* SOME OF IT!

CHOMP! SLOMP! NOMN!

GEE! YOU REALLY *LIKE* ME, HUH? BUT... I'M A SOUND AN' SILENT SOLDIER! I GOTTA *GO* FOR NOW! SEE YA REAL SOON... AWRIGHT, KID?

AH, SHOOT! THERE GOES THE EVENING HORN! I'M *LATE!* →PANT! PUFF!←

BUT AS LONG AS NO ONE *CATCHES* ME, I'LL BE— →←

PRIVATE ELLSWORTH! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?!

ON A MISSION *UNARMED*... BREAKING LEGION LAW! EXPLAIN YOURSELF!

I COULDN'T CARRY MY SUPPLIES, MAJOR HASSAN...

...ON ACCOUNT OF I HAD TO FEED MOZAMBEAK'S LITTLE ONE!

RANK INSUBORDINATION!

AS *PUNISHMENT,* YOU CAN CLEAN AND OIL ALL THE MEN'S RIFLES!

ALL OF THEM?!

AND *THEN* YOU CAN START PEELING ONIONS FOR TOMORROW'S SOUP!

→SIGH!← I WEEP! OR... I *WILL* WEEP!

FINALLY, YOU CAN HAND-WASH *ALL* OF THIS WEEK'S *LAUNDRY!*... YOU'RE *LUCKY* I'M GOING *EASY* ON YOU! *I'M IN A GOOD MOOD RIGHT NOW!* =SNORT!=

NO FAIR!

MAJOR HASSAN, YOU'RE OUT OF ORDER! I WAS ON A MISSION OF MERCY, AND I GET *PUNISHED* FOR IT? THIS—

YOU *DARE* RAISE YOUR VOICE TO *ME,* PRIVATE? SHUT THAT BEAK!

=GLUBGH!=

WE'LL TAKE THIS TO THE COLONEL! AND WON'T *YOU* GET A LULU!

=BLUB! GLUB!=

...AND GIVEN THE *INDIGNITY* OF IT ALL, I *RESIGN,* SIR... EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY! SEND MY LAST CHECK TO THE P.O.!

AWW-W! ISS ZE LEGION TOO *TOUGH* ON OUR LEETLE PRIVATE? MAYBE YOU BELONG IN ZE JUNIOR WOODCHUCKS...

=HEH!= GOOD ONE, SIR!

...OR *ZE CAGE! FIFTEEN DAYS! DISMISSED!*

THAT'LL TEACH *YOU* TO RESPECT PROTOCOL AND FOLLOW ORDERS!

YOWP!

KICK!

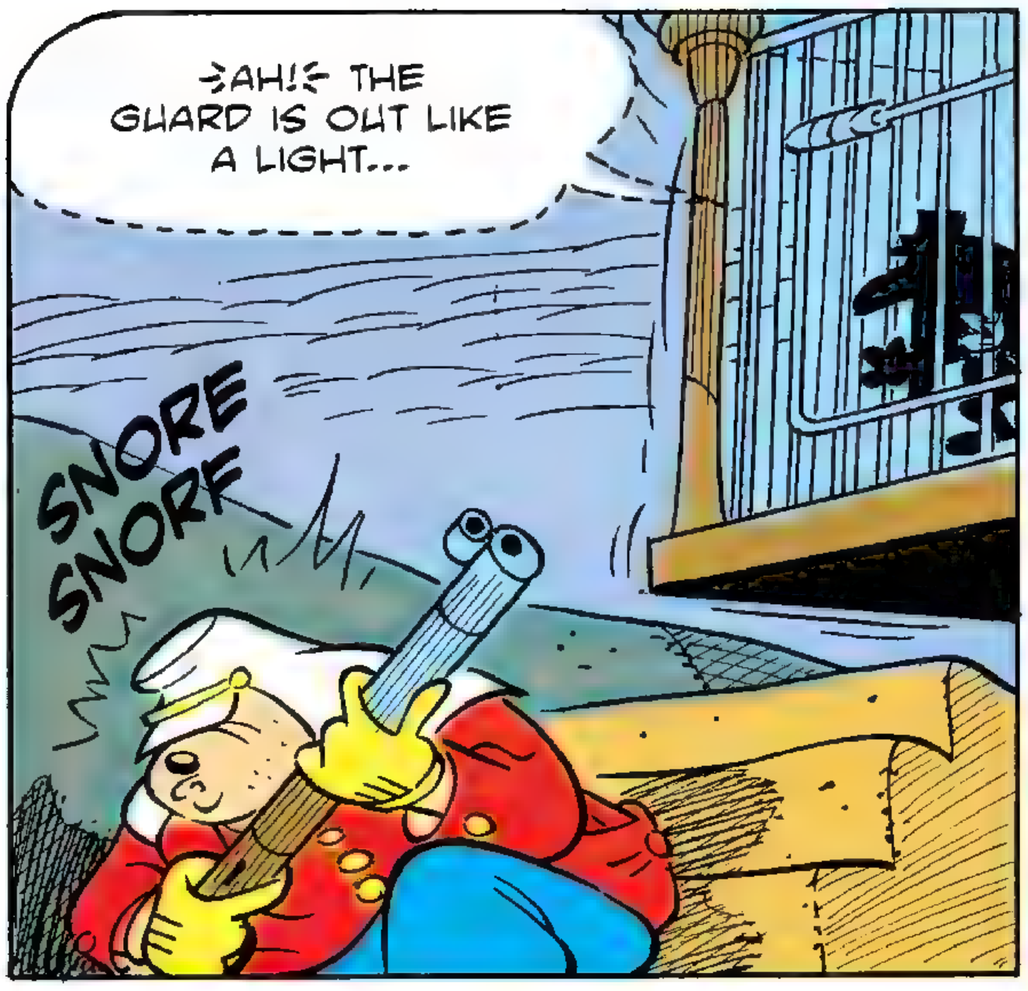
=EH!?= GREAT HORNY TOADS! *YOU... HERE?!*

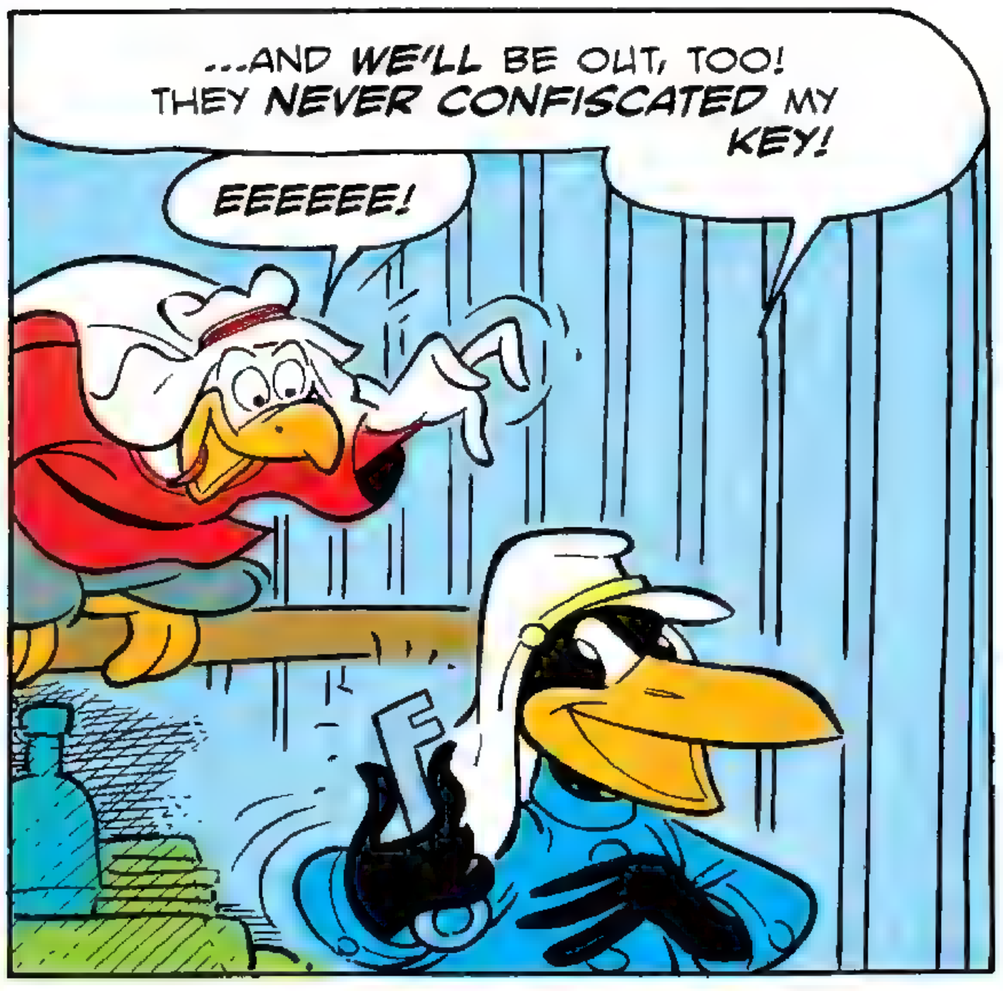
FOR INSUBORDI-NATION! CHECK!

=BOO-HOO!= NOW WHO'S GONNA LOOK AFTER MY POOR, ABANDONED KID? *=BOO-HOO-HOOEY!=*

SINCERE FATHERLY SORROW!

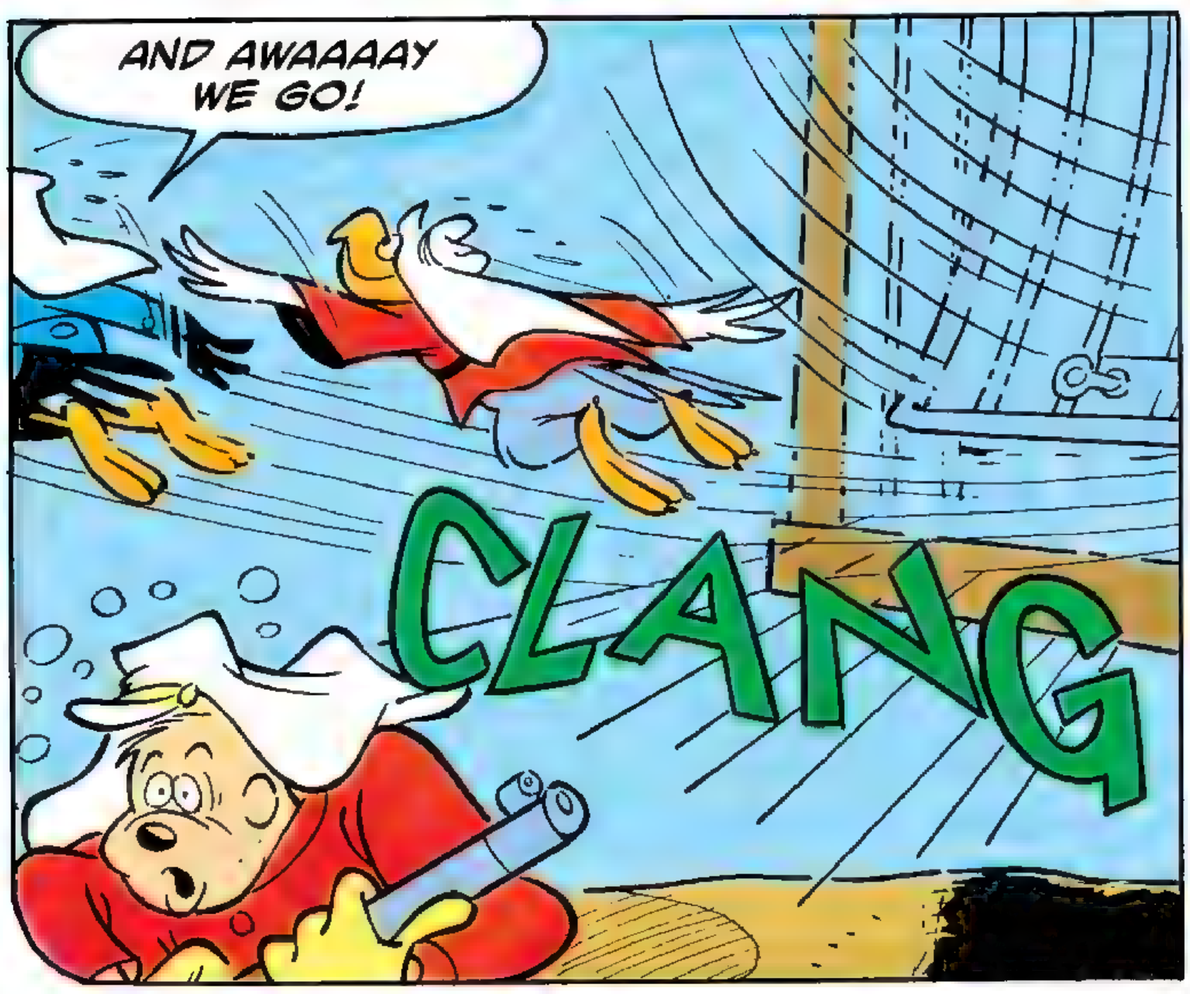
WELL... HERE'S ONE MYNAH BIRD WHO *AIN'T* DOING TIME FOR FEEDING A BABY! NOT EVEN FOR THE LEGION! I'VE HIT MY *LIMIT!*


=AH!= THE GUARD IS OUT LIKE A LIGHT...
SNORE SNORF


...AND WE'LL BE OUT, TOO! THEY NEVER CONFISCATED MY KEY!
EEEEEE!

OIL THE DOOR THERE, MOZEY...
BLIP...
BLIP...

=SHH!= TIPPY-TOE LIKE SO...
SNORE SNORF


AND AWAAAAY WE GO!
CLANG

=AWP!= PRISONERS ESCAPIN'!
BA-BANG!

MISSED US! SUCH SLEEPY SHOTS!

AND THEY'D NEVER FULLY MOBILIZE FOR JUST TWO DIRTY BIRDIES!

BAM BANG CRACK

WELL... THANK OUR LUCKY STARS THAT'S OVER! I'LL HEAD BACK TO THE STATES, AND YOU CAN REJOIN THE STRAIGHT-AND-NARROW... AND YOUR SON!

=HAW-HAW-HAW!= DON'T YOU BELIEVE IT!

I AIN'T GOIN' STRAIGHT... AN' THERE AIN'T NO ABANDONED BRAT EITHER, YOU DIZZY DO-GOODER! =YAAAH -HAH- HAARRR!=

=HUH?!=

I WAS SURE THAT SOB STORY WOULD TRICK YA INTA FREEIN' ME... AN' I WAS RIGHT! WELL, OFF TA SHANGHAI A NEW CREW!

ADIOS, EX-PRIVATE ELLSWORTH! =HAR!=

WELL, HAND ME A RATTLE AND CALL ME A SNAKE! THAT LYING, UNTRUSTWORTHY CHISELER *CHISELED* ME!

BUT THERE REALLY *IS* AN ABANDONED KID IN THESE RUINS... WITH NO MA OR PA... ALL ALONE IN THE WORLD...

HEY, KIDDO! HAPPY TO SEE ME? LIKEWISE, *SON!* LIKEWISE!

CRAAW! CREEK! CRAWK!

I THINK I'LL NAME HIM AFTER MYSELF... *AND* WHAT I *THINK* OF THIS WHOLE EXPERIENCE: *OY!* PUT 'EM TOGETHER AND YOU GET... *ELLROY!*

"SO WE FLEW TO NORTH AFRICA, AND SHIP-HIKED OUR WAY HOME ACROSS THE ATLANTIC..."

...LANDING STATESIDE LIKE *CARGO* AND BUYING THE *JUNKER* CAR I DROVE HERE! A JOURNEY UNBECOMING OF A BHEEZER!

WOW, ELLS-WORTH! WHAT A STORY! FORGET WHAT TH' LEGION SAYS... YOU'RE A *HERO!*

ELLROY SHOULD BE TUCKERED OUT BY THIS HOUR!

FUNNY! I DON'T *HEAR* HIS USUAL UNEARTHLY SNORING!

=AWK!= HE'S *GONE!* FLEW THE COOP!

HE MUSTA LISTENED IN! DON'T TELL ME...

YES! HE ALWAYS FIGURED HE WAS MY *REAL SON!* NOW HE MUST THINK HE'S JUST A BAD-PENNY *TAGALONG!*

SUCH A SENSITIVE SOUL! HE MUSTA ***FLOWN AWAY FOREVER*** TO LIGHTEN MY LOAD! BUT HE'S ***MY BOY...*** BLOOD RELATIVE OR NOT!

WAKE UP, PLUTO! WE NEED YOUR SCHNOZZ TO FIND A MYNAH!

PLUTO

HE CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN ***FAR,*** ELLSWORTH, OL' PAL!

ELLROOYY!

HEY, ELLROY!

ELLROY!

ARF! YARF!

ALL THOSE HOURS OF SEARCHING FOR NOTHING!

AW, BUCK UP, ELLSWORTH! WE'VE JUST GOTTA REORGANIZE AN'...

WHERE'D YA GO, HUH? I'VE BEEN WAITING *AGES* TO GIVE A *TOAST!*

Mart Unruli's

I WENT TO GET A BOTTLE OF *SPARKLING CIDER!* WE JUST HAFTA *CELEBRATE*... WE DO, WE DO!

Mart Unruli's NON-ALCOHOLIC

I HEARD YOUR WHOLE STORY, DAD! YOU'RE A *HERO* AND I'M *PROUD,* I AM!

=HEH!= THANKS, SON! BUT EASY ON THE BEAR HUGS, THERE!

SEE, ELLSWORTH! HE'S TAKEN AFTER YOUR GOOD NATURE ALREADY!

'RAY FOR POP!

THANKS, SON. IT'S AN HONOR TO... *CONTINUE IN OFFICE,* YOU MIGHT SAY!

HEY! THIS ISN'T *MY* CORKSCREW... OR MY BOTTLE...

AHA!

=UH-OH!= MY ORNERY NEIGHBOR!

UM... WHAT'S UP, MR. FIRENFURY?

I GOT UP TO GRAB A GLASS FROM THE KITCHEN... CAME BACK TO FIND MY ***CIDER*** TURNED ***OUTSIDER***...

...AND I ***KNEW*** I SAW A THIEVIN' MAGPIE FLUTTER OUT THE WINDOW!

=ERK!= I'M A ***MYNAH BIRD!*** AND IT'S ALL A MISTAKE, MISTER!

I WAS GONNA ***RETURN*** IT WHEN WE WERE ***DONE***... I WAS, I WAS!

=MUMBLE!=

=SIGH!=

GRUNT

GRARR-R-R..

GRRRR

The End

BURBANK, 1975
MONEY ODOR
BRIGITTE SPRAYS HERSELF WITH "MONEY" PERFUME.
IF THIS SIREN IDEA IS ANY GOOD, YOU'RE WELCOME TO IT. C. B.
DEAR ROMANO (AND BRIGITTE) -
SORRY TO BE SO SLOW AT SENDING THIS SLIDE. HAVE BEEN VERY BUSY PAINTING. GARE AND I ENJOYED MEETING YOU AND THE OTHER FINE ARTISTS AND WRITERS. WE WISH YOU MUCH SUCCESS.
CARL BARKS

Sketches on this page courtesy The Walt Disney Company Italia.

How "Captured in Bananaland" Came To Be

The idea of a Carl Barks–Romano Scarpa team-up began in September 1975, when the editorial staff of Italy's *Topolino* journeyed to The Walt Disney Company's Burbank, California, campus for a seminar. With them came the great Italian Disney comics artists Marco Rota, Giovan Battista Carpi, and Romano Scarpa. Also in attendance were Barks himself and renowned Mickey Mouse artist Floyd Gottfredson. Truly, it was a meeting of international Disney comics maestros. (See page 64 for a photo taken during this historic gathering.)

When it became obvious in their discussions that Barks had been following the Italian Disney comics for years, his visit with Scarpa grew into an impromptu planning session. Though Barks had long ago created an old flame for Scrooge — Klondike saloon owner Glittering Goldie — he was intrigued by Scarpa's creation, Brigitta MacBridge (at that time given the provisional English spelling of "Brigitte"), a canny businesswoman whose tireless crush on Scrooge showed that the old miser could still be involved in new romantic scenarios.

After quizzing Scarpa in person on the details of Brigitta's personality, Barks followed up on the Burbank meeting by mailing Scarpa this sketch of a "siren" idea (top left) — which Scarpa embellished further (bottom left). Then, in this volume's story, "Captured in Bananaland" (next page), Scarpa incorporated that and other concepts that he and Barks had discussed.

— David Gerstein

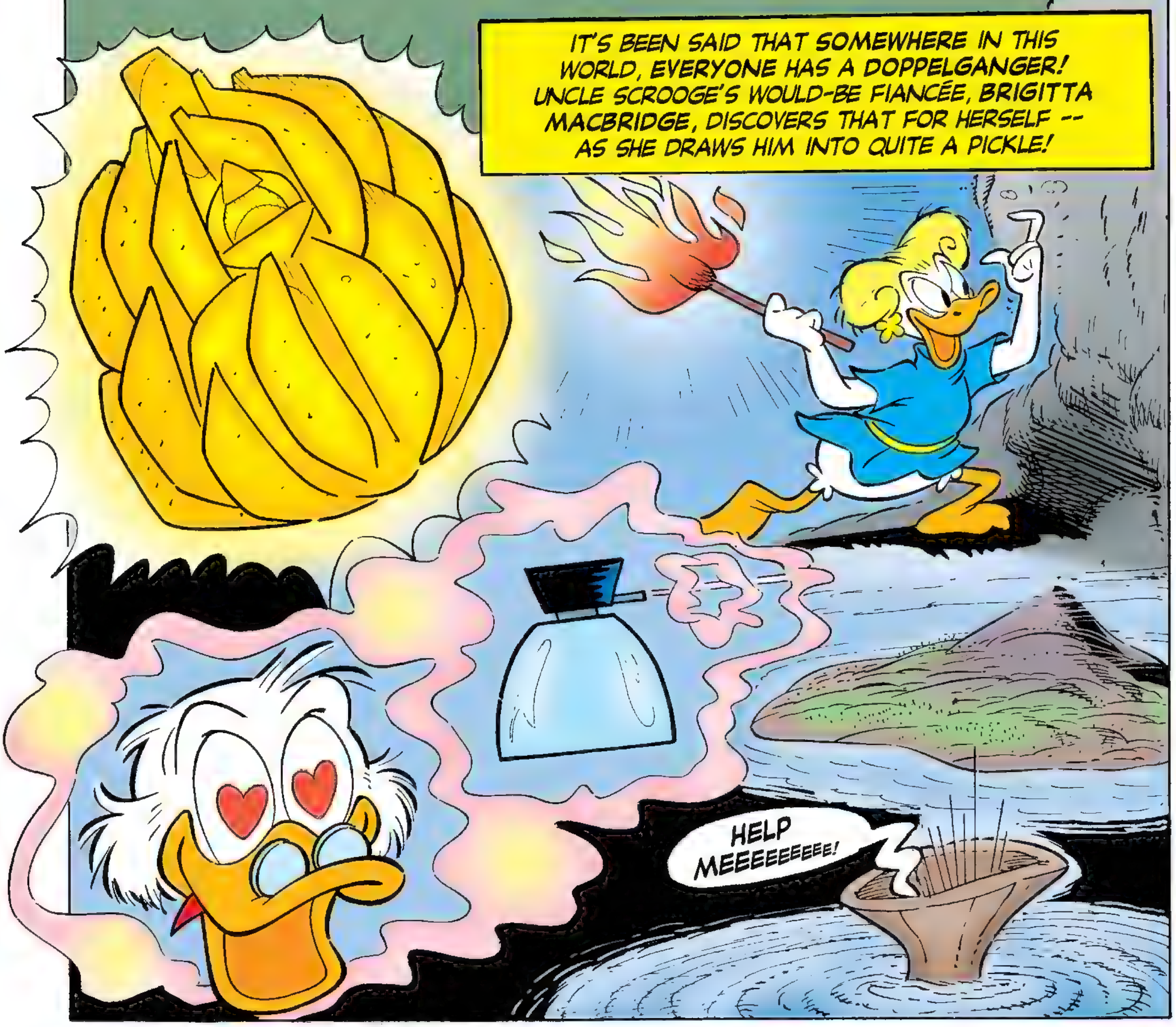
WALT DISNEY

UNCLE $CROOGE

in

CAPTURED IN BANANALAND

CHAPTER 1


IT'S BEEN SAID THAT SOMEWHERE IN THIS WORLD, EVERYONE HAS A DOPPELGANGER! UNCLE SCROOGE'S WOULD-BE FIANCÉE, BRIGITTA MACBRIDGE, DISCOVERS THAT FOR HERSELF -- AS SHE DRAWS HIM INTO QUITE A PICKLE!
HELP MEEEEEEEEE!

STORY BY ROMANO SCARPA, FROM AN IDEA BY CARL BARKS • PENCILS BY ROMANO SCARPA
INKS BY SANDRO ZEMOLIN • TRANSLATION AND DIALOGUE BY JOE TORCIVIA

OUR STORY BEGINS IN A MYSTERIOUS FARAWAY LAND ... CUT OFF FROM THE MODERN WORLD! IT'S A LAND OF LUSH TROPICAL VEGETATION, FROM WHICH RISES A GIANT STRUCTURE THAT LOOKS LIKE -- WELL, SEE FOR YOURSELF ...

YES, THEY HAVE SOME BANANAS! HAPPY AND WELL-FED ARE THEY!

THEY ARE THE QUANCHOS, RULED BY A BENEVOLENT BUT AGING QUALANI -- THEIR WORD FOR QUEEN!

WE QUANCHOS HAVE ENJOYED PEACE AND PROSPERITY FOR CENTURIES, PRAISE BANANAS! BUT ...

... AT MY AGE, THIS GOLDEN CROWN BECOMES A HEAVY BURDEN!

SOON, I WILL PASS IT ON TO MY HEIR, IN KEEPING WITH OUR LAWS!

THEN OUR NEW QUALANI WILL GUIDE US IN PRESERVING OUR TRADITIONS OF HARMONY AND JOY!

Z

Z

Z

SKISH

WE MUST ALWAYS HAVE A GOOD AND WISE *QUALANI* TO LEAD THE *QUANCHOS!*

SQUIRE, SUMMON *HITTA* TO THIS CHAMBER AT ONCE!

HITTA, MY DEAR, YOU HAVE LONG BEEN MY *DESIGNATED HEIR!*

SO WHAT *ELSE* IS NEW?

NOW IS THE TIME OF *TRANSITION*, HITTA! TODAY, THE GOLDEN CROWN *PASSES TO YOU!*

-:ARGH!:- THIS IS AWFUL!

THAT HORRIBLE HELMET! THE HAVOC IT WOULD WREAK UPON MY HAIR ...

... AND ITS SHEER WEIGHT WOULD BEND ME OVER LIKE AN OLD CRONE! I WON'T DO IT! -GRRR!-

NO LIFETIME UNDER THAT HORRID HEADPIECE FOR *ME* -- BECAUSE I KNOW A *SECRET!*

BEYOND THIS VALLEY IS A *BIGGER WORLD* THAT I CAN ESCAPE TO!

THIS *ANCIENT MAP* REVEALS A LONG-HIDDEN PATH TO FREEDOM!

-*ULP!*- IT'S NOW OR NEVER, HITTA! SHOULD I STAY, OR SHOULD I GO?

I GO! FOLLOW THE HIDDEN PATH TO A GREAT WALL WITH FOUR LAYERS OF ROCK! YES, THIS IS IT!

A CERTAIN SPOT ON THE FOURTH LAYER IS SAID TO BE HOLLOW! AND -- AHA!

TONK TONK

FREEDOM IS JUST A CHISEL AWAY! -HEE HEE!-

SKRAK

AH, THE ROAD NOT TAKEN BY OUR PLACID PEOPLE! LET THE QUANCHOS FIND ANOTHER QUALANI! LOOK OUT, NEW WORLD -- HERE COMES HITTA!

AND SO, HITTA LEAVES THE LAND OF THE BANANA PEOPLE ... BUT WHAT WILL SHE FIND BEYOND?

MEANWHILE, IN GOOD OLD DUCKBURG, U.S.A., A CERTAIN RICH DUCK IS FEELING EVEN MORE PARANOID THAN USUAL ...

STILL ON BEAGLE-WATCH, UNCLE SCROOGE?

ALWAYS!

THAT'S NO BOY ...

IT'S A BEAGLE BOY!

THOSE BIRDS ON A WIRE?

BEAGLE BOYS!

THAT ORDINARY FIREPLUG?

SWIRLING SPRINKLER?

EVEN THOSE TRASH CANS?

BEAGLE BOYS! TERRIBLE, TERRIBLE BEAGLE BOYS!

DON'T BE SO FIXATED, UNCA SCROOGE!

SWAK!

PHOOEY! IF I ALLOW MYSELF THE SLIGHTEST DISTRACTION, THEY'LL ROB ME BLIND!

BIRDS AND FIREPLUGS? YOU'RE LOSING IT!

YOU'LL BE SEEING BEAGLE BOYS IN YOUR NUTMEG TEA NEXT! YOU NEED A SUPER-SAFE HIDING PLACE FOR YOUR MONEY RIGHT NOW!

EASY FOR YOU TO SAY! I'VE TRIED ALL THE USUAL HIDING PLACES -- LAKES, CASTLES, AND PYRAMIDS!

I'VE GOTTEN MORE CREATIVE ... TO NO AVAIL! LIKE MY ORBITING SATELLITE MONEY BIN! COST ME A FORTUNE IN ROCKET FUEL!

SIGH

SIGH

ONCE I FILLED TWO GIANT *FAKE FISH* WITH CASH AND SENT THEM ON A VOYAGE TO THE *BOTTOM OF THE SEA!*

THANKS TO UNPREDICTABLE UNDERWATER CURRENTS, I'M *STILL* TRYING TO LOCATE THEM!

BAH!

?

?

I EVEN TRIED A *MONEY BLIMP* AND HID IT AMONG THE *CLOUDS!*

BUT THAT YEAR WE HAD A *DROUGHT*, AND THOSE *CLOUD-SHOOTERS* MADE IT RAIN ... *RAIN MY MONEY!*

BA-BOOM

FINALLY, A *VOLCANO!* "DORMANT FOR 7,000 YEARS," SAID THE REAL ESTATE AGENT!

A WEEK LATER, GEOPHYSICISTS WERE ASTOUNDED AT AN *ERUPTION OF DOLLARS AND CENTS!*

AFTER ALL THOSE FANTASTIC FAILURES, YOU WANT ME TO TRY AGAIN?

SAY, *I'VE* GOT AN IDEA!

MICKEY MOUSE

YOU DO?

GATHER MILLIONS OF *PELICANS*, AND STUFF *THEIR* BILLS WITH *YOUR* BILLS!

SEND A FLOCK TO EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE! WHEREVER YOU ARE, YOUR CASH WILL BE, TOO!

AND I ACTUALLY TOOK A MOMENT TO *LISTEN* TO YOU! →*GROWF!*←

JUST TRYIN' TO HELP!

MORE NEWS FROM OUR *WIRETAP*, FELLOW RAVEN?

NEVERMORE!

NO PERCHING!

OLD SCROOGE IS LIKE A *TURTLE*, AN' THAT BIN IS HIS *SHELL!* HE WON'T LEAVE IT FER NUTHIN'!

BAH!

TIME FER US TA SAY ...

... BYE-BYE, BLACKBIRDS!

IF ONLY WE COULD GET HIM TO *GO SOMEPLACE* FER A FEW DAYS ...

... THEN WE COULD CRACK HIS VAULT IN PEACE!

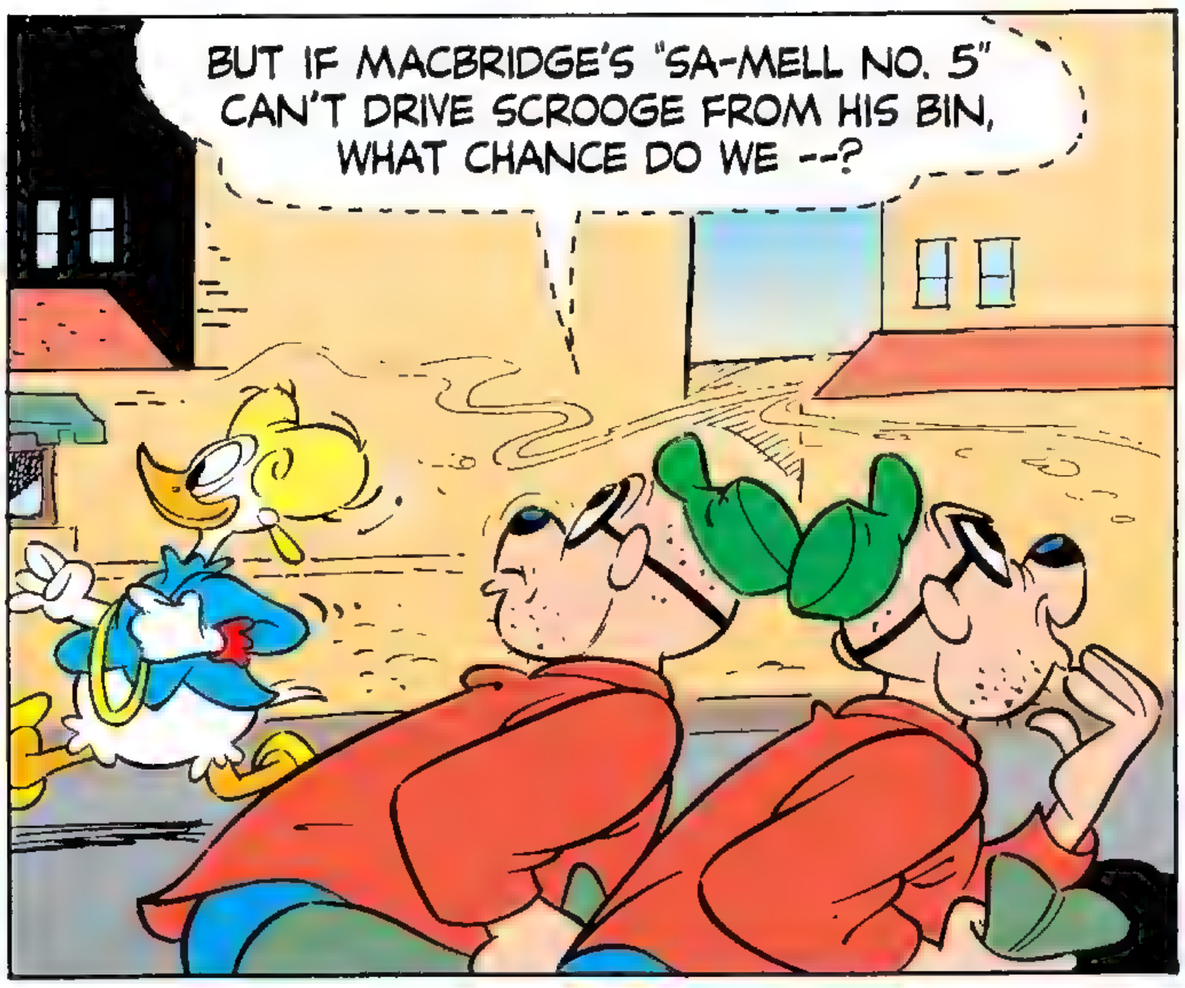
-:SNIFF! SNIFF!:-

SMELL SUMPTHIN'?

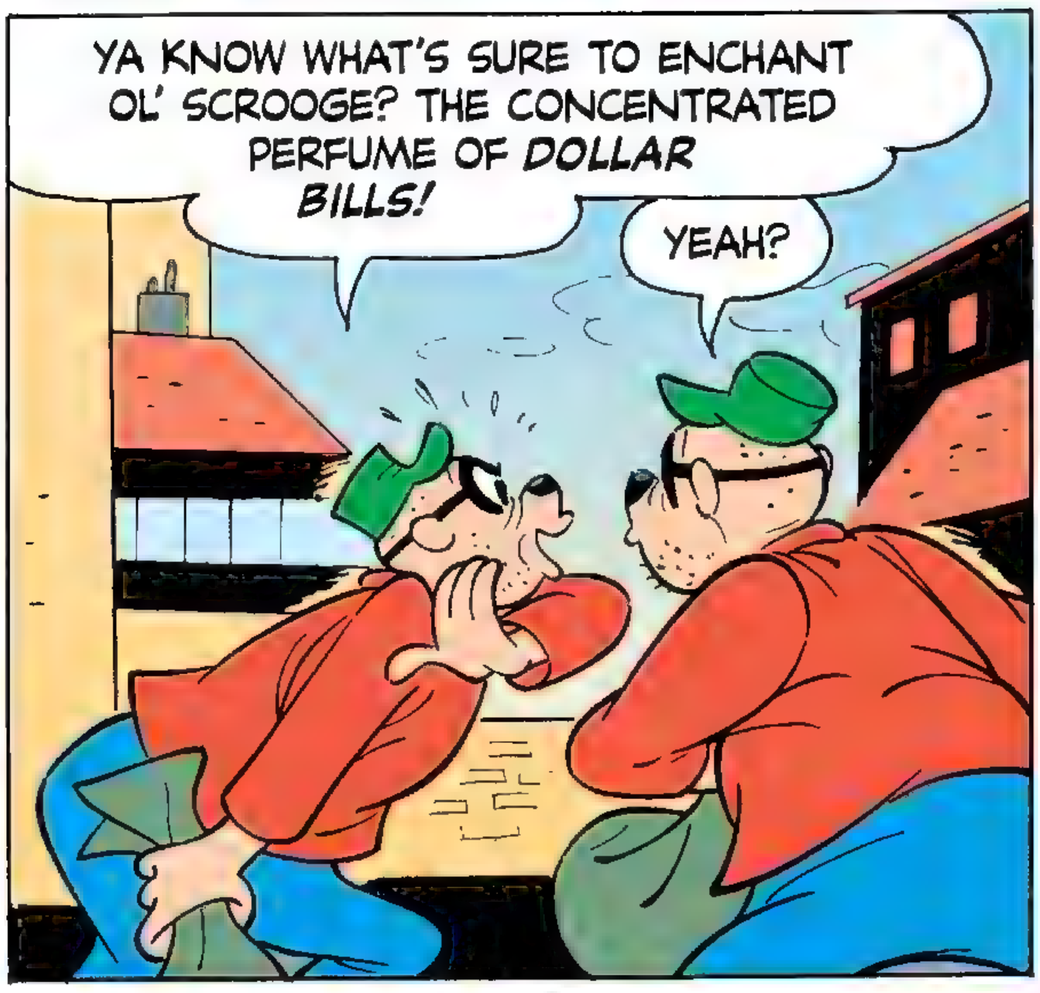
I SMELL *POLICE!* LET'S BEAT WINGS, BRO!

-WHEW!-
THESE FEATHERS MAKE ME MORE ITCHY THAN TH' COPS! HOW DOES OLD SCROOGEY STAND 'EM? -UGH!-

-HMPH!- THERE'S SOMEONE WITH A DIFFERENT KIND OF McDUCK IRRITATION!
176-176
176-761


BUT IF MACBRIDGE'S "SA-MELL NO. 5" CAN'T DRIVE SCROOGE FROM HIS BIN, WHAT CHANCE DO WE --?

MAYBE A GOOD ONE!


YA KNOW WHAT'S SURE TO ENCHANT OL' SCROOGE? THE CONCENTRATED PERFUME OF DOLLAR BILLS!
YEAH?

IF BRIGITTA SPRITZED HERSELF WITH SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT, McDUCK WOULD FOLLOW HER -- ANY-WHERE!
AND THEN WE ...

... WE WOULD HAVE TH' BIN TO CRACK, ALL TO *OURSELVES!* IF ONLY THERE *WAS* SUCH A PERFUME!

176-176

176-176

->SIGH!<- BACK TO THE DASTARDLY DRAWING BOARD!

WAITAMINNIT! *HERE'S* SOMEONE WHO CAN HELP US!

NOBODY MAKES MIRACLES LIKE THAT GUY!

GYRO GEARLOOSE NVENTOR OF ANYTHING

GET IT, GYRO? IF ONLY WE COULD JUST *SMELL THE AROMA* OF MONEY, THEN ...

I *GUESS* ...

... WE WOULDN'T HAFTA *STEAL* IT!

I'LL NEED *SOME MONEY* FROM WHICH TO DISTILL THE SCENT!

???

176

ALL WE GOT IS A DOLLAR IN CASH, AN' A CHECK FOR FIVE BUCKS!

AND I HAVE FIFTEEN DOLLARS! ->HMM!<-

NOT MUCH TO WORK WITH HERE, BUT I CAN TRY AN *AMPLIFYING TREATMENT!*

COOL!

THIS SUPER MOLECULAR EXTRACTOR WILL GIVE ME A *HIGHLY CONCENTRATED SOLUTION!*

NEXT, ADD AN AGGREGATING ADDITIVE OF PECUNIARY POTIONS, AND ...

YOU SMELL BUCKS BURNING, BRO?

176-17

176-76

BA-BOOOM!

EEEK!

D-DID YOU ...

... GO BOOM, OR BUST?

M-MORE LIKE B-BOOM!

BUT HERE IT IS, BOYS! →GROAN!← THE *FRESH SCENT* OF *MONEY!*

WE KNEW WE COULD COUNT ON YOU!

→OOG!← I SHOULD *COUNT* MY FINGERS AND TOES!

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS PRESS THE CAP TO SPRAY THE *AROMA OF MOOLAH!*

GEE, THANKS!

176-

-761

USE IT SPARINGLY! I'M NOT ABOUT TO GO THROUGH *THIS* AGAIN! ... ER, MIND IF I *FAINT?*

BE OUR GUEST!

HERE'S THE WEAPON! HOW DO WE PRIME THE *DELIVERER* ... ER, BRIGITTA?

GETTING IT TO HER COULD BE *STICKY!*

DING-DONG!

?

!

RAVON CALLING! I'D LIKE TO GIVE YOU *FREE SAMPLES* OF OUR GLAMOROUS COSMETICS LINE! MAY I COME IN?

PLEASE DO!

WANNA HEAR MY *IDEA?*

PLEASE DO!

THE BEAGLE BOYS AREN'T THE ONLY ONE SCHEMING TO MANIPULATE A CERTAIN RICH OLD DUCK! BRIGITTA IS MULLING SOME STRATEGIC PLANS OF HER OWN!

I *MUST* FIND A WAY TO *BREAK DOWN* THAT OLD BOULDER'S *RESISTANCE!*

I LOVE THAT STUBBORN COOT AS MUCH AS HE LOVES *MONEY!* HOW CAN *I* HAVE THAT EFFECT ON HIM?

RRRING

YES?

KNAVE-ON COSMETICS! 'CAUSE IT'S A *CRIME* NOT TO LOOK YER BEST!

GOOD DAY, MA-DOM! I'M GOIN' DOOR-TO-DOOR TO PROMOTE AN *EXCITIN' NEW FRAYGRANCE!*

ONE SPRITZ OF OUR NEW *EAU DE DOLLARE* AN' YOUSE WILL GIVE OFF AN *INTOXICATIN'* AROMA!

SSSST!

I DON'T CARE IF IT WOULD MAKE ME SMELL LIKE *NEWLY PRESSED HUNDRED-DOLLAR BILLS* ...

... I'M NOT *INTERESTED!*

SLAM

WHOA! THAT STUFF *REALLY SMELLS* LIKE *CASH!*

I'M *SOOO* SORRY, MISS! THAT SILLY DOOR MUST HAVE *SLIPPED!*

YEAH ... INTO *ME!*

SAMPLES *DO* GET YOUR *FOOT IN THE DOOR!*

-:OOOCH!:- MY META-TARSAL!

I'M GLAD *MINE'S OUT!*

MAY I OFFER YOU SOME TEA? A *CRUMPET?*

NAW! JUST TAKE YOUR SAMPLE, WHILE I *LUMP IT!*

HMMM ... IT SAYS "*DISTILLED FROM FREE-RANGE CURRENCY*"! DARE I PUT IT TO THE TEST?

-:OORG!:- SMELLS NAUS-EATING TO ME!

BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS WHAT *YOU* THINK, MY DEAR LAMMYKINS!

WE'LL FIND THAT OUT *RIGHT NOW!* HEH HEH!

SSSST! SSSST!

DANGER! DANGER! COMING FAST AT 6:00!

THE *BEAGLE BOYS?!* HOW MANY?

WORSE THAN THAT! EVERYONE, INTO THE SHELTER ... *NOW!*

→ULP!← IS IT ...

SAFE ROOM

... A *BILL COLLECTOR? THE TAXMAN?*

I WISH! NO, IT'S *BRIGITTA!* ***HELLLP!***

JUST *HER?*

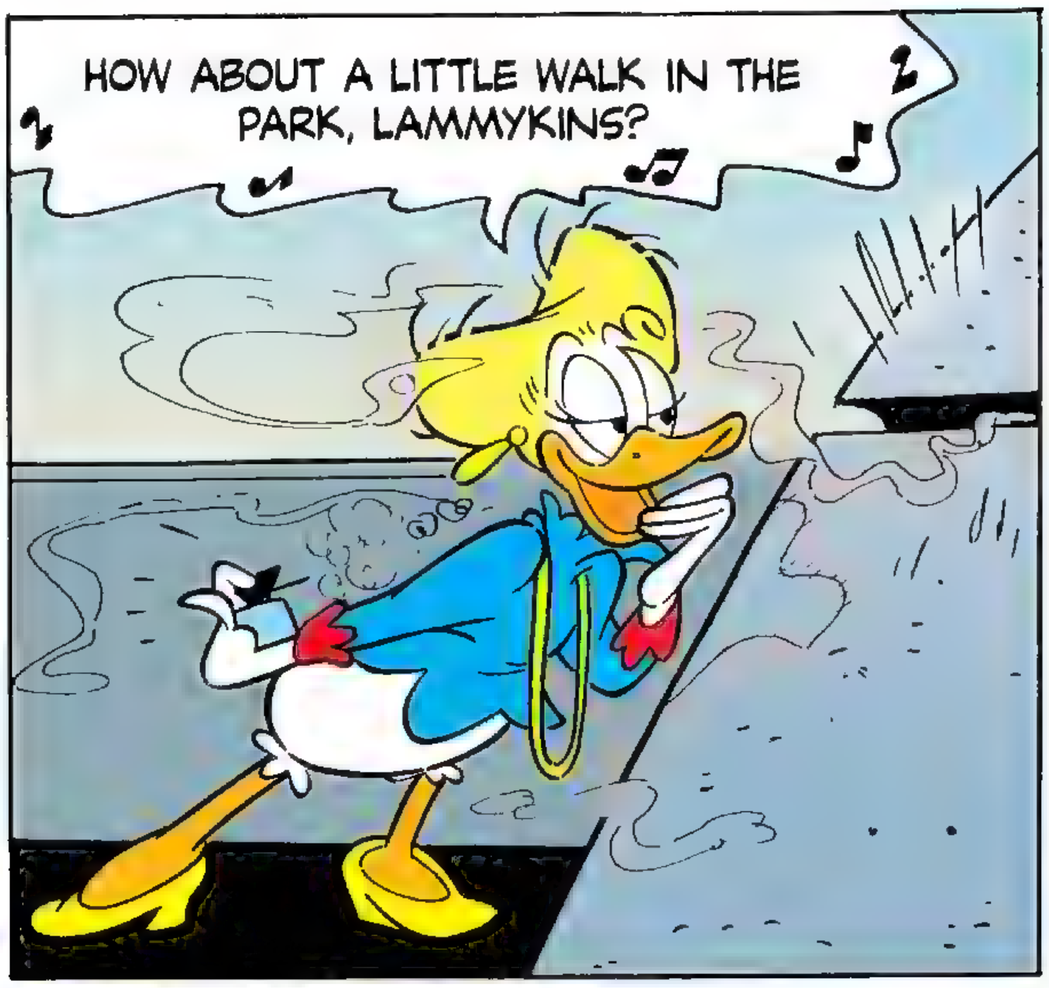
I DROPPED BY TO THE TOP OF YOUR MONEY BIN TO SAY HI, SCROOGIE!

!

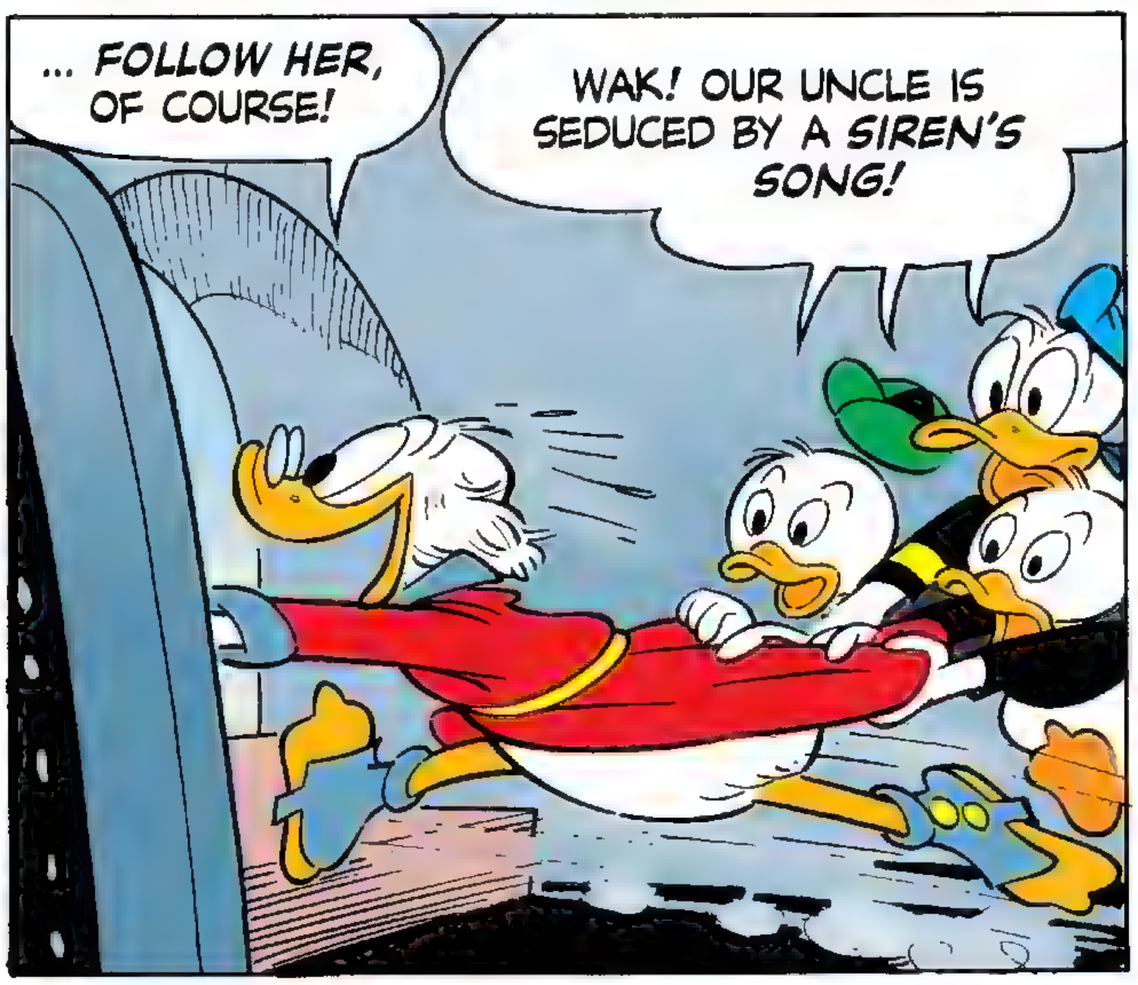
?

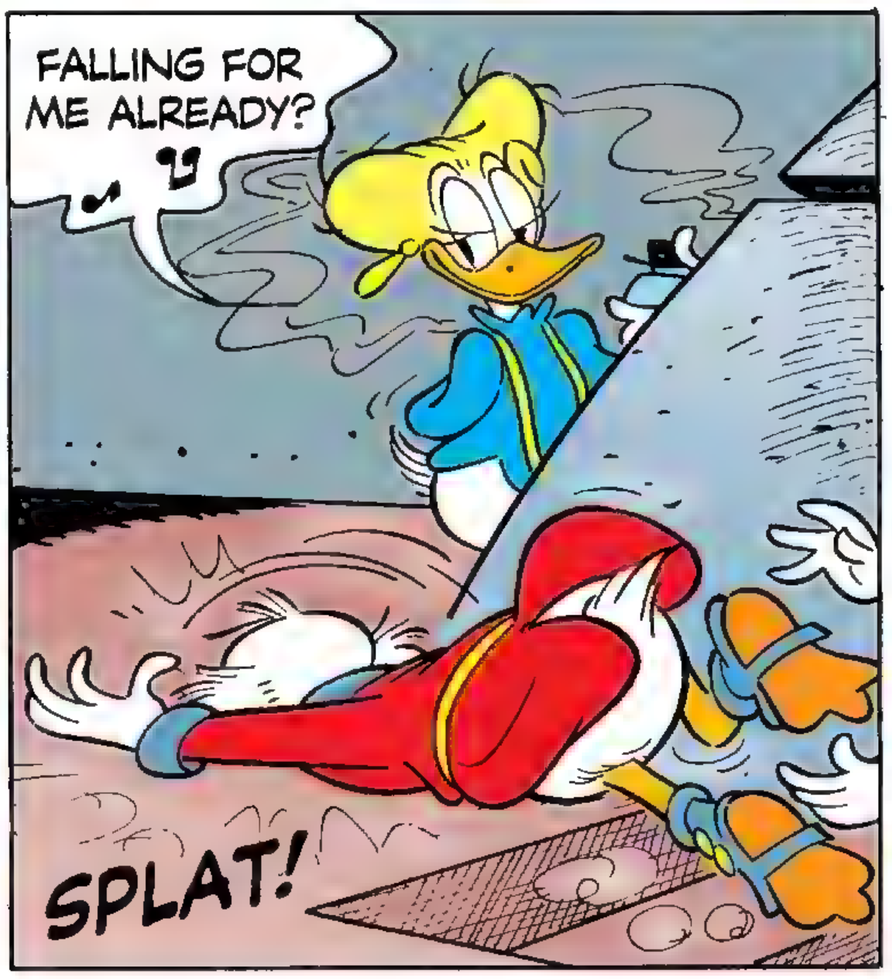
I KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE, AND YOU CAN JUST FORGET IT! *SCRAM!* BEAT IT! FADE AWAY!

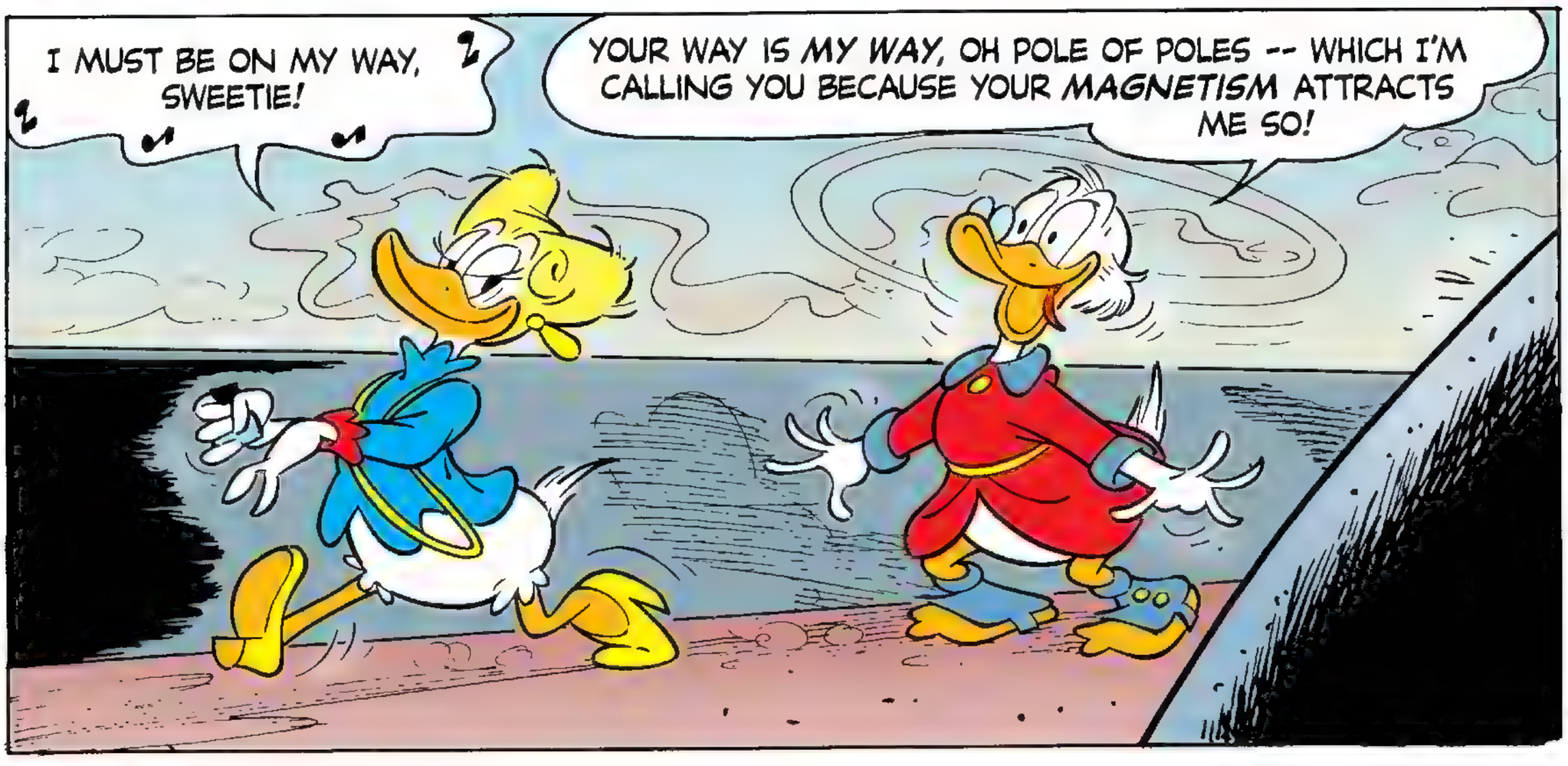
GO TO ... →*GLURG!*← ... →SNIFF-SNIFF!← *NOMMN!*


HOW ABOUT A LITTLE WALK IN THE PARK, LAMMYKINS?

→SNIFF!← THERE'S SOMETHING *IRRESISTIBLE* ABOUT THAT GAL THAT MAKES ME WANT TO ...
TO *WHAT?*


... *FOLLOW HER,* OF COURSE!
WAK! OUR UNCLE IS SEDUCED BY A *SIREN'S SONG!*


FALLING FOR ME ALREADY?
SPLAT!


I MUST BE ON MY WAY, SWEETIE!
YOUR WAY IS *MY WAY,* OH POLE OF POLES -- WHICH I'M CALLING YOU BECAUSE YOUR *MAGNETISM* ATTRACTS ME SO!

WHAT ABOUT FAIREST-OF-THE-FAIR?

THAT TOO, BRIDGIE LASS!

CAN YOU BEAT THAT?

UNCA SCROOGE IS ON A DIET OF *PURE MUSH!*

A *FAIR* FOR YOUR *LADY FAIR?*

SOUNDS *FAIR* TO ME!

LUNA PAR

PAY ONE PRICE

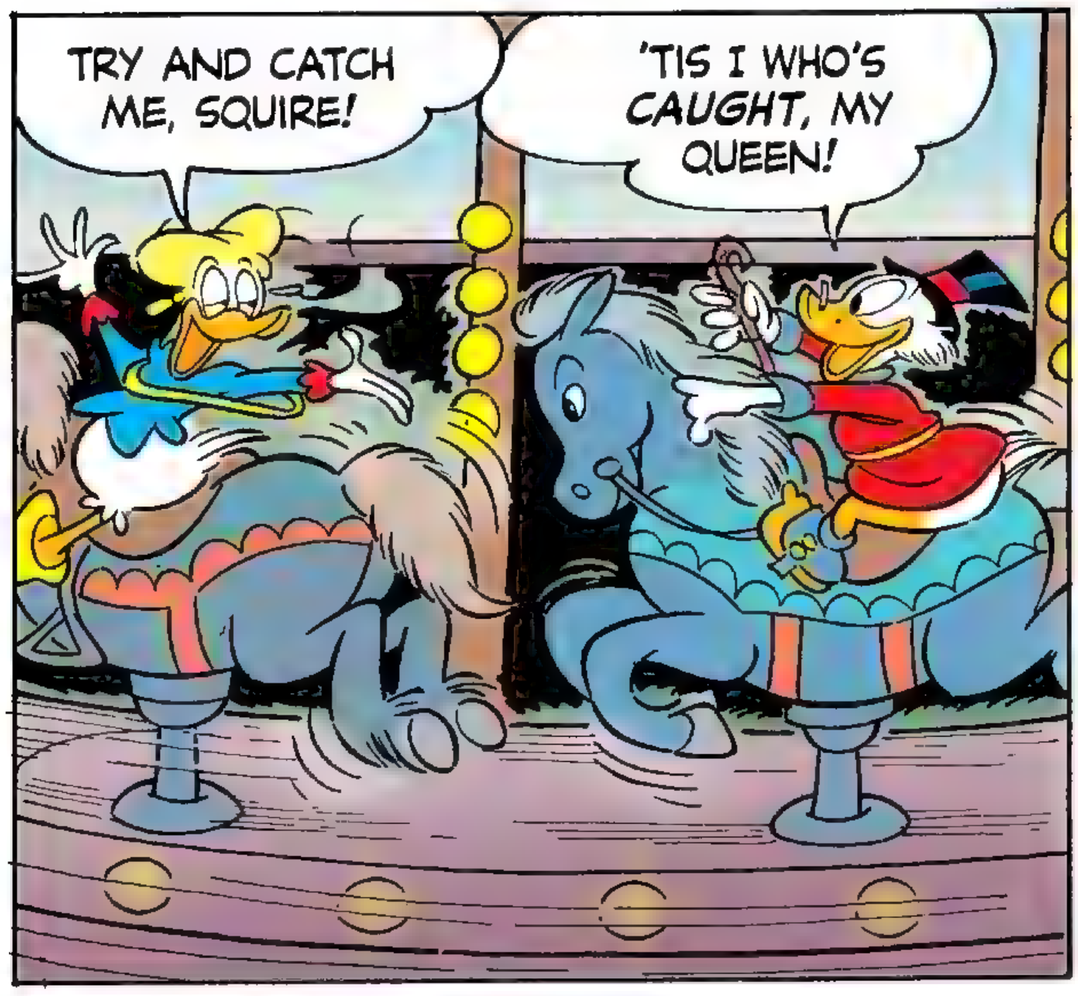
STAY ALL DAY

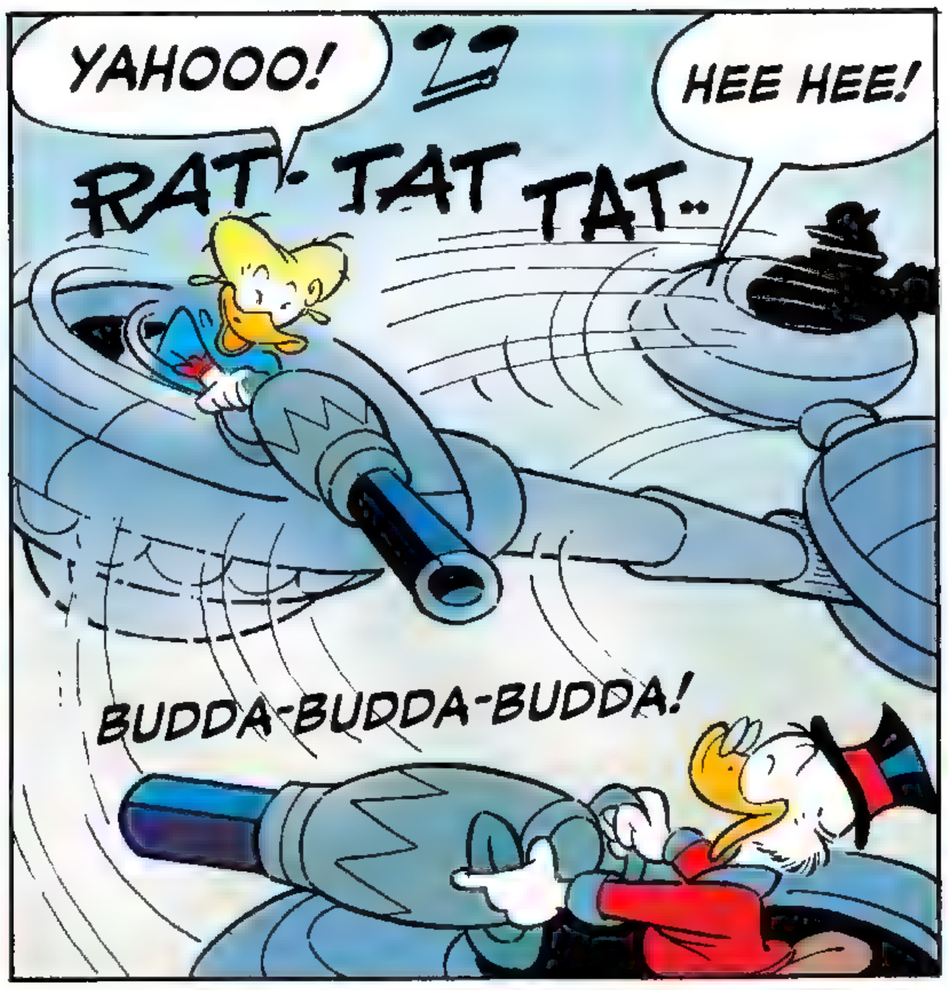
YUM! COTTON CANDY AND CANDY CANES!

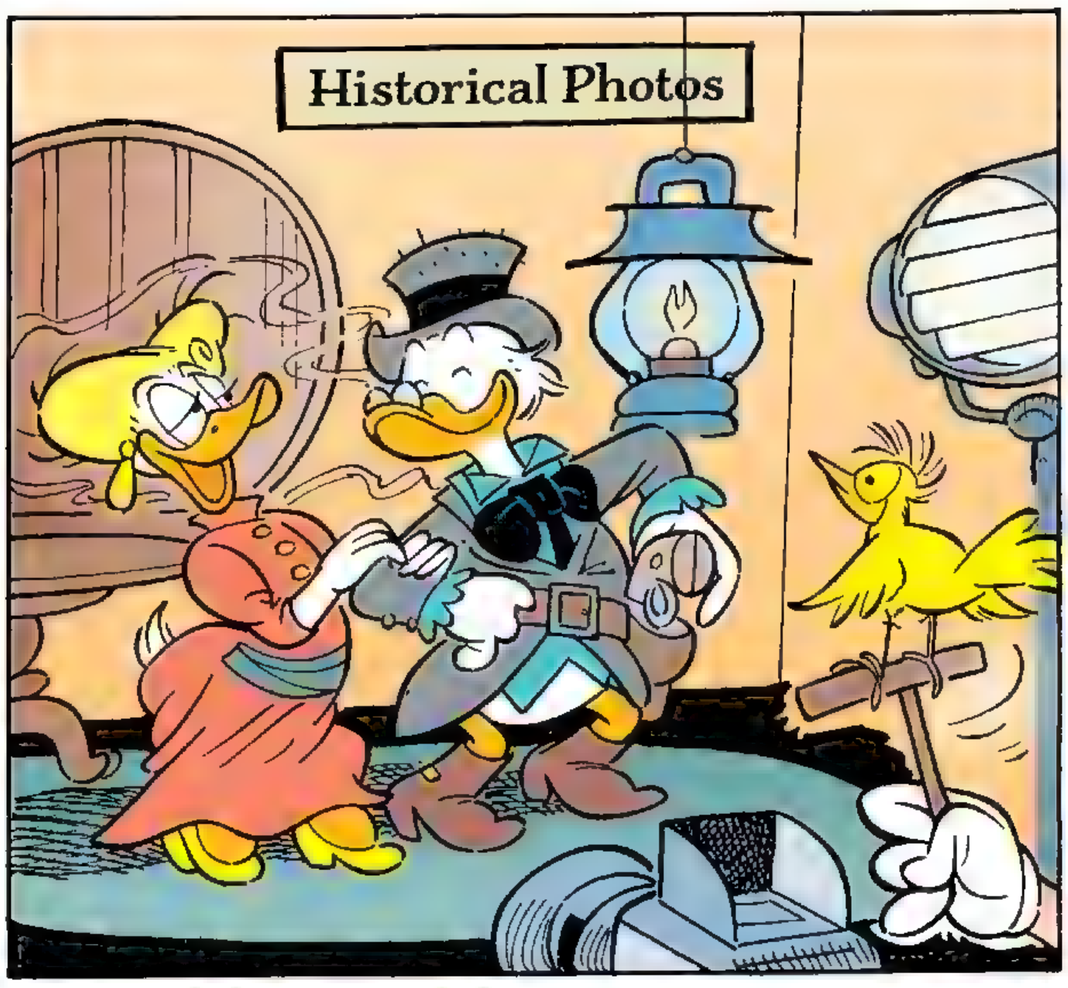
SWEETS FOR THE *SWEETEST!* -:HEH!:-

HE'S TURNED *BIG SPENDER!*

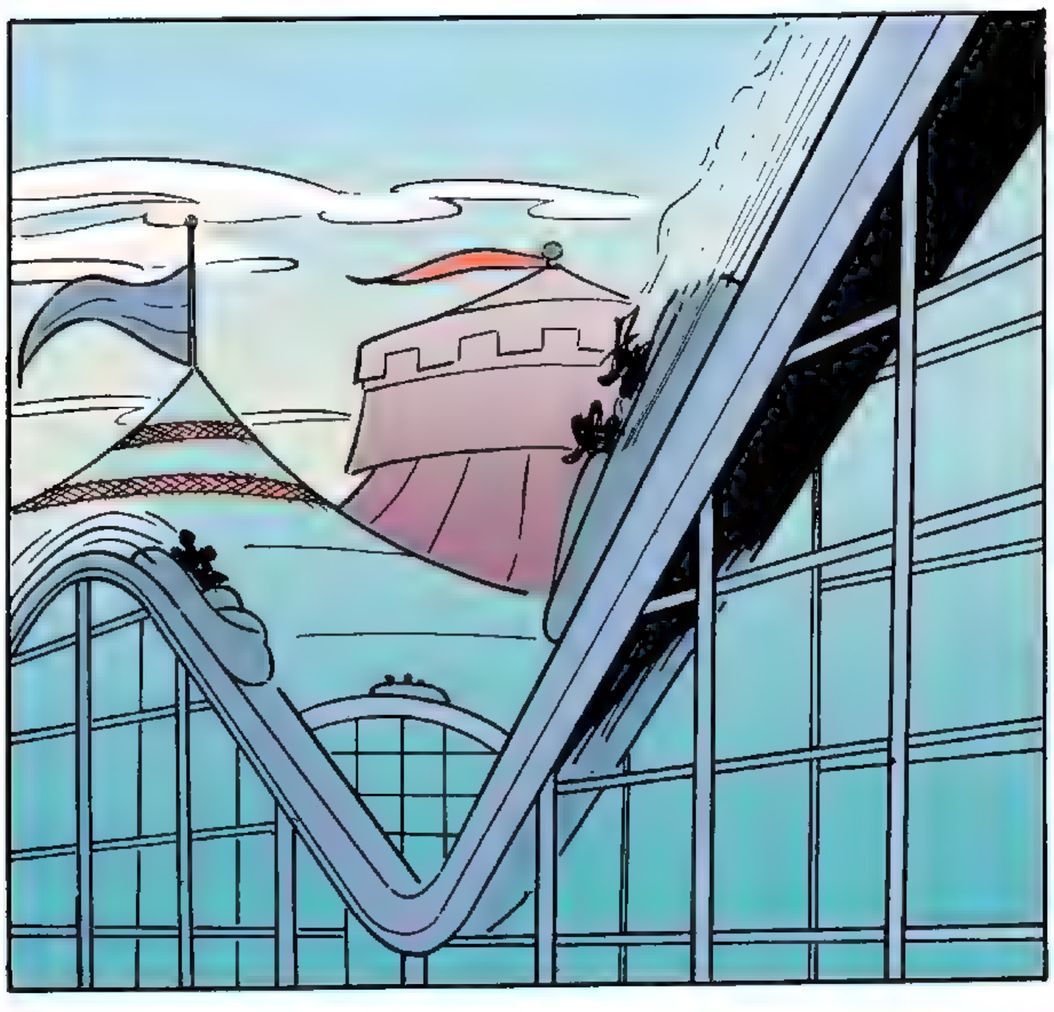
TWO ALL-DAY TICKETS *AND* CANDY!

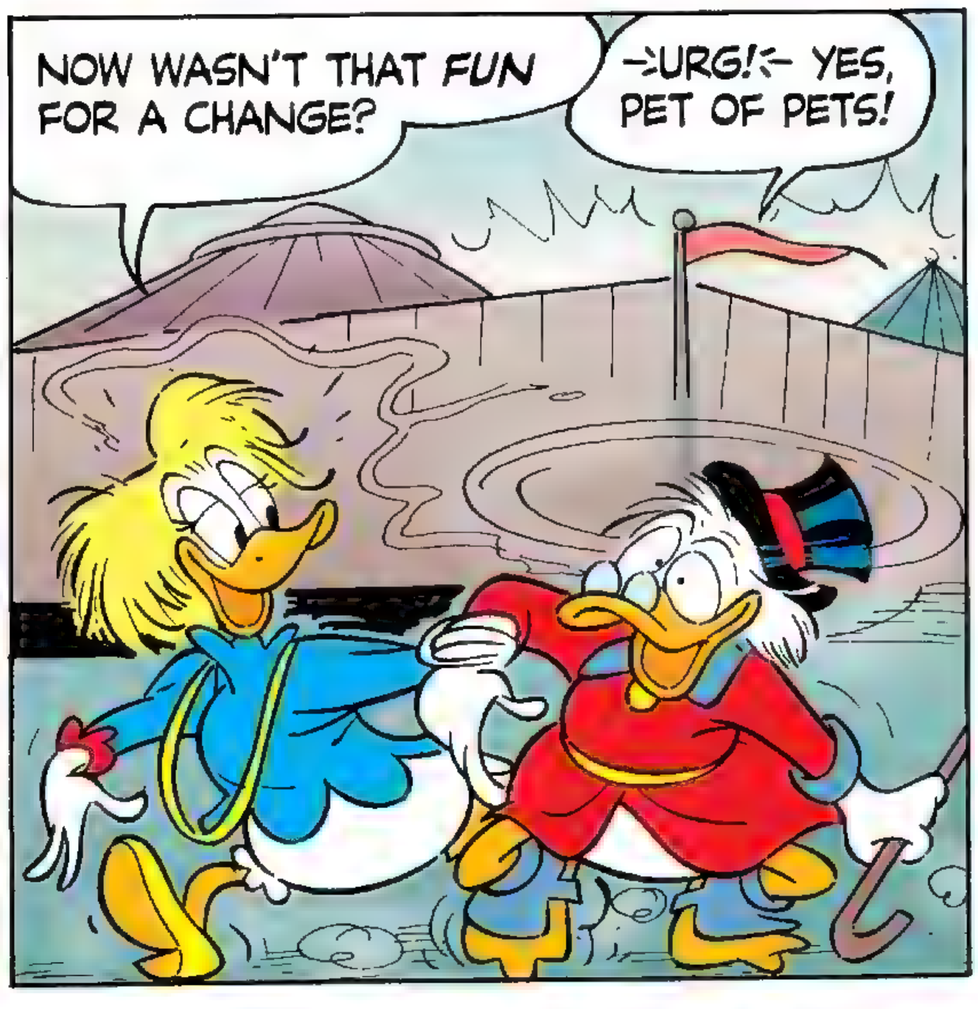

TRY AND CATCH ME, SQUIRE!
'TIS I WHO'S CAUGHT, MY QUEEN!


YAHOOO!
HEE HEE!
RAT-TAT TAT..
BUDDA-BUDDA-BUDDA!


Historical Photos

CLANG




NOW WASN'T THAT FUN FOR A CHANGE?
-URG!- YES, PET OF PETS!

IT WAS FAN-TASTIC!

SINCE YOU LOVE LUNA PARK, MY GEM OF GEMS, *I'LL BUY IT FOR YOU!*

HEY, *TAXI!*

STUPEFYING!

HE HASN'T PAID FOR A TAXI RIDE SINCE *1953!*

TAXI

THE OLD SKINFLINT'S *NOT HIMSELF!*

THIS IS SERIOUS!

DISASTROUS, EVEN!

WHAT NOW, UNCA DONALD?

WE'LL STOP HIM AT BRIGITTA'S HOUSE!

313

WAK! A SOUTH-OF-THE BORDER BAND?

BRIGITTA! SWEET PARAKEET-A! YOU ARE OH-SO-NEAT-A!

HOOKED AND LANDED ... ALL BY THE SCENT OF MONEY!

BRIGITTA! YOU CAN'T BE BEAT-A!

HELLO, *GLOBESPANNERS TRAVEL?* THIS IS SCROOGE McDUCK!

BOOK ME A ROMANTIC FIRST-CLASS WORLD CRUISE FOR TWO! ... *SPARE NO EXPENSE!* ... →HUH?← *OF COURSE I'M ME!*

?

?

SPIFFANY JEWELERS? SEND A SALESCLERK TO THE HOME OF BRIGITTA MACBRIDGE WITH A SELECTION OF YOUR FINEST RINGS! ... AND *FAST!*

!

JUSTICE O'PIECE? YOU MUST MARRY ME! ... NO, NOT TO *YOU!* TO THE LOVELY BRIGITTA MACBRIDGE! SPIFFANY'S SALESCLERK WILL SERVE AS A WITNESS!

→SWOON!←

PLOP

THE BEAGLE BOYS REACT QUITE DIFFERENTLY FROM DONALD AND THE KIDS!

NOW, WE CAN *BREAK TH' BIN!*

LET'S LEAVE McDUCK A *WEDDING CARD* AS A GAG!

AN' SOME *RICE!* -:YAK!:-

HE'S THE VICTIM OF SOME *EVIL CUPID!*

WHAT NOW?

WE NEED A *BIG IDEA!* HIS HEART'S TOTALLY AFLAME!

CALL THE *FIRE DEPARTMENT?*

NO! HERE'S A *BETTER* BIG IDEA! SEE THAT *COSTUME SHOP?*

COSTUMES

?

313

HEAR YE, HEAR YE! HERE COMES THE JUSTICE! HERE COMES THE JUSTICE!

ALL THAT'S MISSING IS MENDELSSOHN'S *WEDDING MARCH!*

I HOPE YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, MR. McDUCK!

ARE YOU READY, ROSE OF ROSES?

MY DREAM! REALIZED AT LAST!

PLEASE SELECT THE RINGS!

LET'S SEE ... WIDENING ROADS ... WILD ANIMAL CONTROL ... AH, *WEDDINGS!*

CIVIL CODES

THE CHOICE IS YOURS, DEAR!

NO NO

EH? WHAT'S THIS?

NOOOO, MY HEART-OF-HEARTS! YOU *CANNOT* MARRY THAT HARPY!

THINK OF US *CHILDREN!*

OH-OH! FAMILY DRAMA!

DON'T ABANDON US TO THE COLD, CRUEL WORLD! WE'RE *STARVING* ...

BUT, BUT ...

... AND NEED *SOCKS!*

?

PLEASE DON'T TRADE US IN FOR THIS YEAR'S MODEL!

WHO ARE YOU?!

MADAM, I'M SURE THIS IS ALL A *MISTAKE!* -URK!-

RETURN TO OUR HOME, HEARTH, AND LEAKY ATTIC!

POOR LADY!

RATHER A *ROBUST* SORT!

COME, CHILDREN! TOGETHER, WE WILL RECONSTRUCT OUR FRAGILE FAMILY UNIT!

?

313

QUICK! IN THE CAR BEFORE THAT VAMPIRE GETS HER FANGS INTO US!

COMING, MOTHER!

-ARRRGH!-

313

THAT *CAR!* THAT *LICENSE PLATE!* I UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING NOW ... *MS. DONALD DUCK!* -GRR!-

313

OUR CONDOLENCES, DEAR LADY! SHOULD YOU EVER REQUIRE OUR SERVICES AGAIN, *PLEASE CALL!*

OUT!

YO-HO-HO!

WE'LL SOON BE IN ...

... THE DOUGH! -HAR!-

BEAGLE BOYS INC.

BEAGLE BOYS INC.

BEAGLE BOYS INC.

HOLD IT! HERE COMES THE GROOM ... SPELLING OUR DOOM!

NO FAIR! HE TWO-TIMED BRIGITTA ... AND US, TOO!

MAYBE BRIDGIE'S SUPPLY OF OUR MONEY PERFUME RAN OUT ...

AND WITH IT, LOVE'S SWEET IMAGINARY EMBRACE!

SCREECH! YOWL!

BEAGLE BOYS INC.

LEMME GO, YOU WEDDING CRASHERS!

SURE!

WELCOME BACK TO YOUR ELEMENT, "PAPA"!

IT'S *US*, UNCLE SCROOGE!

IN THESE COSTUMES, WE *SAVED YOU* FROM --

WHAT?! YOU *INTRUDE* ON MY *AFFAIRS OF THE HEART?*

LIKE SHAKESPEARE, ALL'S WELL THAT *ENDS* WELL ...

I'LL SHOW *YOU* SHAKESPEARE -- YOU *RODERIGO!* YOU *CAPULET!*

MY *ONE* CHANCE AT HAPPINESS, AND --

JUST WAIT *24 HOURS* AND RECONSIDER! YOU CAN STILL GET MARRIED MONDAY!

I CAN STILL *WHAT* -- *WHEN?* →*GLEEP!*← DID YOU LADDIEBUCKS SAY ... *MARRIED?!*

TAKE DEEP BREATHS!

KA-POPP!

MY STARS AND LITTLE COMETS! WHAT IN THE SAM HILL DID I *ALMOST DO?*

HE'S BACK!

AND GOOD AS NEW!

YOU WERE ABOUT TO BUY BRIGITTA AN AMUSEMENT PARK ... AND TAKE HER ON A LUXURY *WORLD TOUR!*

-EEP! OPP! ORKK!-

SOMEHOW, SHE TURNED YOU INTO A SMITTEN *SPLURGER*, READY TO SPEND --

MY WHOLE HOARD! *NO! NEVER!*

WE'VE GOT TO *REDOUBLE* OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP MY CASH SAFE ... NOW AND FOREVER!

FIND ME A *FOOLPROOF HIDEAWAY!* I'LL -CHOKE!- *PAY ALL EXPENSES!*

SUCH BRAVERY!

CASH DISPENSER HANDS OFF!

AND FIND OUT WHAT BRIGITTA DID TO ME, TOO!

KNOWING BRIGITTA, THE HIDEAWAY WILL BE EASIER!

SCAT!

THE DUCKS FIND BRIGITTA AT THE AIRPORT, EXHAUSTED FROM HER ORDEAL AND READY TO CONFESS ...

I'M SORRY I *PLAYED A LITTLE ROUGH* WITH THE OLD BOULDER, BUT NO HARD FEELINGS ... OK?

SURE! BUT HOW DID YOU ENRAPTURE HIM SO?

WOMEN'S WILES ... AND THIS *ESSENCE OF MONEY SPRAY!* IT REALLY HAD HIM GOING! AND NOW *I* MUST BE GOING -- ON A NEEDED VACATION!

YOICKS!

HEY! THERE'S STILL SOME OF THIS MIRACLE MIXTURE LEFT! -:HMM!:-

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, SHE TOOK IT WELL!

BRIGITTA TOOK IT WELL! DONALD JUST TOOK IT!

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, UNCA SCROOGE!

BRIGITTA IS OFF TO THE *BANANIAS ISLANDS* TO HEAL!

-:WHEW!:- FINE WORK, LADS!

SO FINE THAT HERE'S A *QUARTER* FOR EACH OF YOU!

ER, AND *ME?*

A QUARTER, JUST LIKE THE REST OF ... →SNIFF-SNIFF!←

COME AGAIN, PLEASE?

→SNIFF!← I SAID A *QUARTER* ... A QU-QUARTER OF *ALL* MY FINANCIAL HOLDINGS! →SNIFFFF!←

→SNIFFFF!← *NO!* WHY STOP AT A MERE *QUARTER*, YOU BRILLIANT BUSINESS BARON?

MAYBE *50/50?*

MORE LIKE *90% TO YOU!* LET'S SIGN AN AGREEMENT!

DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT IT, UNCA DONALD!

GET RID OF THAT *PERFUME!*

95%?

PERFUME? WHAT PERFUME? HEH!

KEEP THE BOTTLE, MICROBES! IT'S NEARLY EMPTY! I'M GOING HOME TO MY TV!

FIRST THAT SLY BRIGITTA, AND THEN YOUR SHIFTY UNCLE! IS *EVERYONE* OUT TO ROB POOR ME?

BE CALM, UNCA SCROOGE! THE PROBLEM'S OVER!

NOT SO FOR YOUR UNCLE!

SKISH

IN ANOTHER PART OF THE WORLD, BRIGITTA ARRIVES AT HER DESTINATION!

PASSENGERS, ON YOUR LEFT YOU CAN SEE THE *BANANIAS ARCHIPELAGO!*

THERE ARE *FIVE MAIN ISLANDS*, PLUS THE WONDER OF NATURE CALLED *"NEPTUNE'S FUNNEL"!*

WHEESSHH

IT IS A CURIOUS AND INACCESSIBLE ROCKY PROMINENCE THAT ALTERNATELY *TAKES IN* AND *SPITS OUT* THE SEA AIR!

WHEEEE

IT APPEARS TO *RISE AND FALL* DUE TO THE ACTIVITY OF A SURROUNDING WHIRLPOOL!

AMAZING!

BEAUTIFUL ISLANDS, WITH FABULOUS HOTELS! JUST THE THING TO FORGET THAT OLD COOT!

RESIDEN

HOTEL ATLAN

NOTHING LIKE AN *EXOTIC VACATION* TO LIFT ONE'S SPIRITS!

-:EEK!:- THAT'S TAKING EXOTIC *TOO* FAR!

SORRY, SENORA! IT'S OUR *BUSY SEASON!*

HOTEL

Peel-ton Hotel (VACANCY)

NO LUXURY ROOMS LEFT! THIS *THRIFTY HOVEL* REMINDS ME OF MY LAMMYKINS! SIGH!

ENOUGH ABOUT *HIM!* LET'S SEE THE CITY!

BANANIAS MUSEUM

GOLDEN BANANA-PLANT SCULPTURES GO BACK TO THE DAYS OF THE *QUANCHOS!*

GOLD

GOLD

THE QUANCHOS WERE THE ORIGINAL INHABITANTS OF THE BANANIAS ISLANDS -- AND *VANISHED* WITH THE ARRIVAL OF FOREIGN COLONISTS!

?!

!?

HERE IS A RECONSTRUCTION OF WHAT WE BELIEVE TO BE CRO-MAGNON QUANCHOS!

LITTLE IS KNOWN OF WHENCE THEY CAME ... AND LESS IS KNOWN OF THEIR *DISAPPEARANCE!*

QUALANI (QUEEN)

ODD! THAT WOMAN WAS A *MIRROR IMAGE OF ME!* SHE WAS HERE, THEN *VANISHED* JUST LIKE ... THE *QUANCHOS*, I GUESS!

BANANIAS MUSEUM

THE NEXT DAY ...

IT'S NICE TO BE ALONE, AWAY FROM *TOURISTS!* BUT I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT ...

VOLCANIC SOIL (HOT)

SUDDENLY, BRIGITTA COMES UPON A DEEP CREVASSE ...

-AWP!- MY CAMEL STUMBLED ... AND I'M FALLING INTO THIS HOLE!

YEOW! THE GROUND IS *HOT!* I'LL BE ROASTED IN HERE!

-OOOF!- THE SURFACE *COOLS* THE MORE I TUMBLE! BUT HOW'LL I EVER *GET OUT?*

-URGH!- I'VE REACHED THE BOTTOM! NOTHING BROKEN, FORTUNATELY! BUT THAT *BOULDER* ... IT'S MOVING ... *OPENING!*

CREAK

HITTA! SO YOU'VE *REPENTED* AND *RETURNED!*

WHO? ME? I JUST GOT HERE!

WITH LANGUAGE SEPARATED BY AGES, THE TWO STILL MANAGE TO COMMUNICATE ...

FROM *OUTSIDE*, YOU HAVE ADOPTED A *CURIOUS* FORM OF *SPEECH!*

ME? YOU'VE GOT A *PECULIAR PATOIS*, TOO!

COME, HITTA! RETURN TO YOUR PEOPLE!

MY PEOPLE ARE HALF A WORLD AWAY! I JUST *FELL INTO* THIS!

PERHAPS YOUR RETURN WILL MITIGATE YOUR *PUNISHMENT!*

BUT, BUT ... I'M JUST A *PASSING TOURIST!*

SBROMP

CAN ANYONE HEAR BRIGITTA'S FAINT CRY FOR HELP? ONLY FIVE DUCKS EVEN KNOW HER WHEREABOUTS, AND NONE KNOW THE PERIL SHE FACES IN THIS ANCIENT WORLD!

AND WHAT OF THE REBELLIOUS HITTA AND THE GOLDEN CROWN SHE DREADS? FOR THE ANSWERS TO THAT AND MORE, READ ON ...

WHEESSHHHHHH

HELP MEEEEEEEEE!

WALT DISNEY

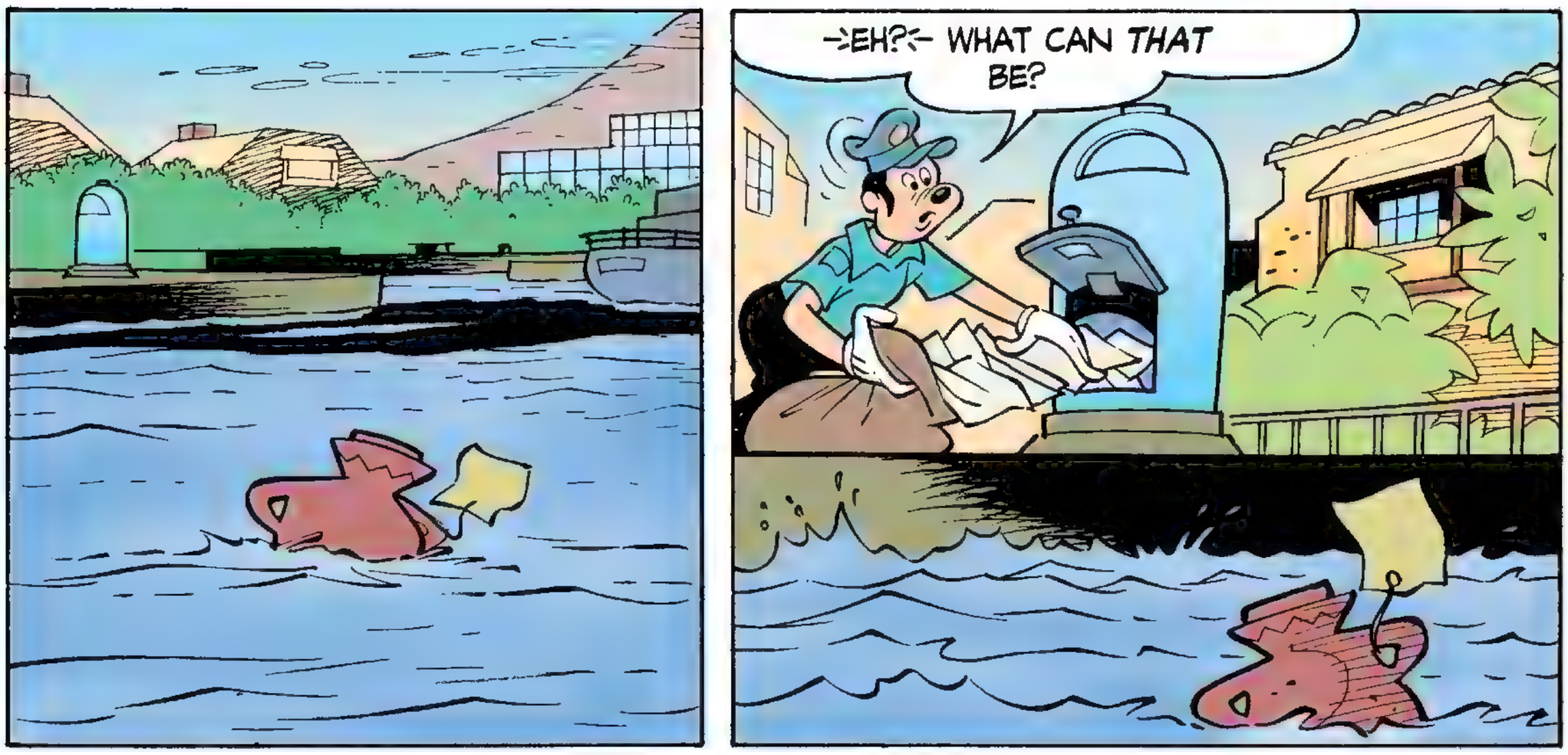
UNCLE $CROOGE in CAPTURED IN BANANALAND

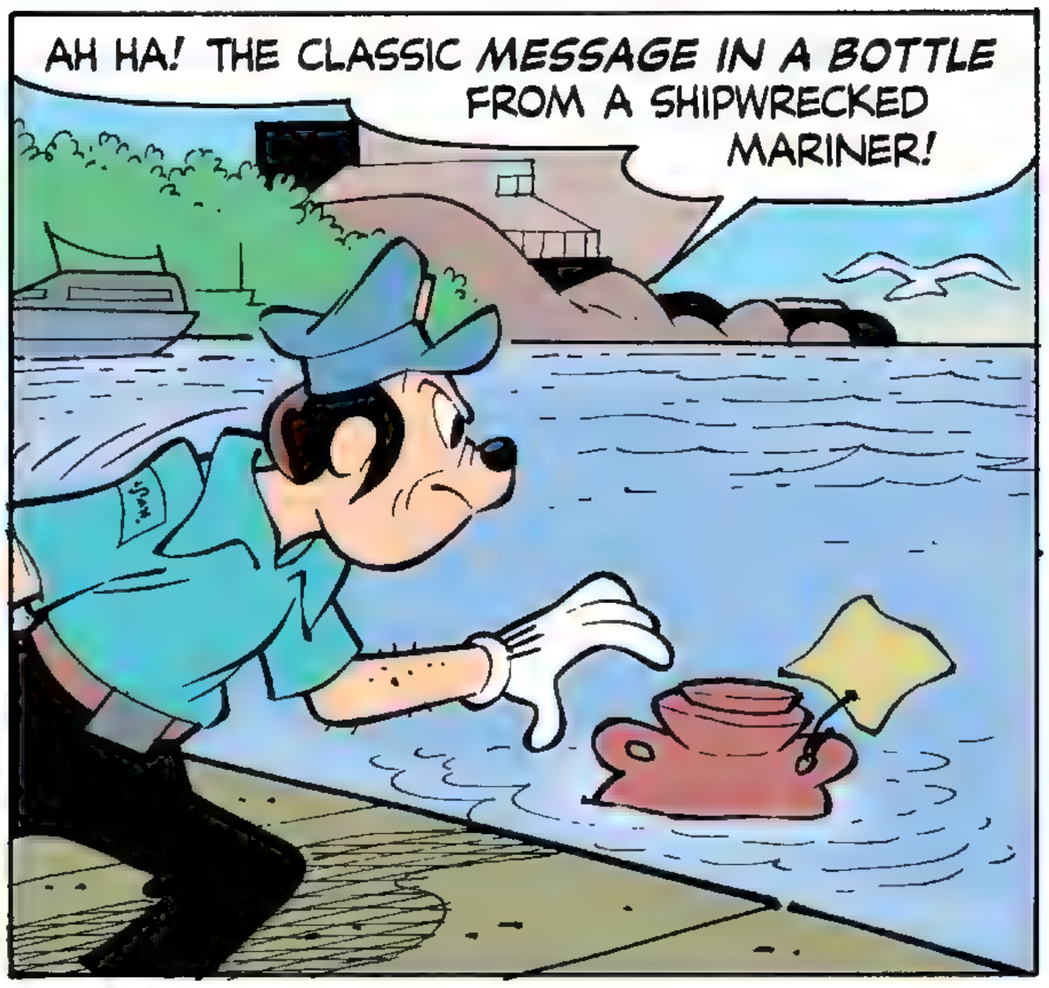
CHAPTER 2

THANKS TO HIS NEPHEWS' RESOURCEFULNESS, UNCLE SCROOGE NARROWLY AVOIDS MARRYING LOVESICK LADY TYCOON BRIGITTA MACBRIDGE, WHO FLIES OFF TO A VACATION IN THE **BANANIAS ISLANDS!** THERE, BRIGITTA DISCOVERS HER PERFECT DOUBLE, **HITTA**, WHO HAS FLED FROM THE LAND OF THE ANCIENT **QUANCHOS** RATHER THAN BECOME ITS QUEEN! BRIGITTA FINDS HITTA'S **HIDDEN KINGDOM**, TOO ... JUST IN TIME TO BE MISTAKEN FOR THE RUNAWAY! HER **DOUBLE TROUBLES** ARE JUST **BEGINNING** ...

SEVERAL WEEKS HAVE PASSED SINCE BRIGITTA'S DISAPPEARANCE! NO ONE HAS SEARCHED FOR HER, BECAUSE NO ONE EVEN KNOWS SHE'S MISSING! BUT THAT'S ABOUT TO CHANGE ...

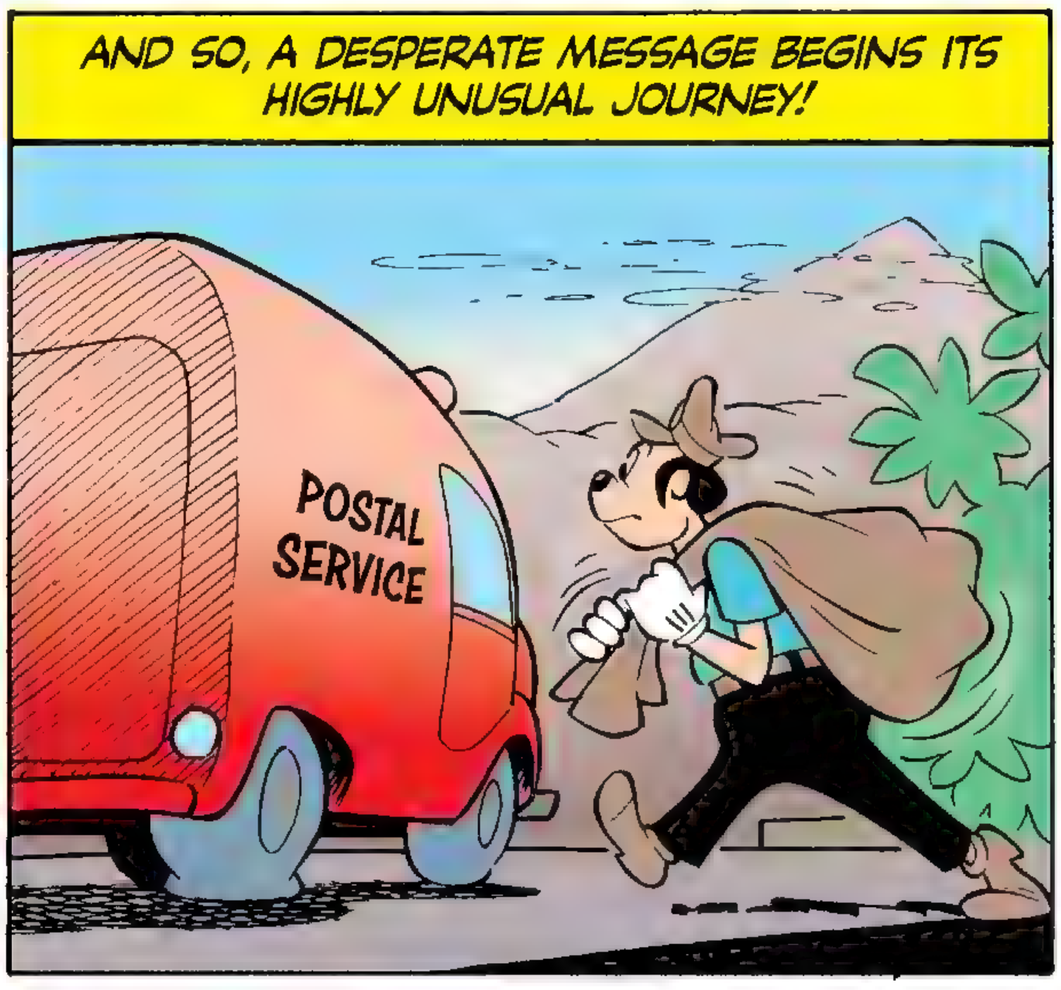
WHEEEEEEE


-:EH?:- WHAT CAN THAT BE?


AH HA! THE CLASSIC MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE FROM A SHIPWRECKED MARINER!

BUT THIS ONE HAS A SPECIFIC ADDRESS!
Postage will be paid by addressee
To:
MR. SCROOGE McDUCK
I KILLMOTOR HILL
DUCKBURG, USA

WELL, THE MAIL MUST GO THROUGH ... WHEN POSTAGE IS DUE!
MAIL


AND SO, A DESPERATE MESSAGE BEGINS ITS HIGHLY UNUSUAL JOURNEY!
POSTAL SERVICE

LET'S AIRMAIL OURSELVES AHEAD OF THE POSTAL SERVICE ... AND LOOK IN ON "I KILLMOTOR HILL," SHALL WE?

VROARRR

HOW'S THE SECRET PROJECT COMING, UNK?

→HEH!← LIKE A WELL-OILED MACHINE, NEPHEW!

BROOOMM

SQUIRT!

SQUIRT!

HOW'S BRIGITTA?

SHE'S BEEN AWAY FOR WEEKS, WITHOUT EVEN A POSTCARD!

NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!

VRROOM

DON'T BE SO GROUCHY!

YEAH! AFTER ALL, SHE WAS ALMOST OUR AUNT!

AREN'T YOU CURIOUS?

SPECIAL DELIVERY PACKAGE!

COULD IT BE FROM BRIGITTA?

→HMMPH!← THE COMINGS AND GOINGS OF THAT SCHEMING SIREN ARE OF NO CONCERN TO ME!

IT IS! IT'S FROM BRIGITTA IN THE BANANIAS ISLANDS!

MY, THAT'S CURIOUS!

YOU SURE DON'T SEE ONE OF *THESE* EVERY DAY!

LOOK!

SHE SENT YOU A *PRESENT!*

WITH *POSTAGE DUE?!*

WAK!

BUT IT'S A *BEAUTY!*

MADE *UGLY* BY THE POSTAGE FEES!

HEY! A MESSAGE!

SCRAWLED ON A *DRIED BANANA PEEL?*

IT SAYS,"HELP! I'M A PRISONER OF THE ANCIENT QUANCHOS!"

THEY WANT ME FOR THEIR QUEEN, AND WILL HOLD ME IN THEIR PREHISTORIC ISLAND VILLAGE FOREVER!

OH, BOTHER!

SHE WANTS US TO COME NOW!

LET'S CALM DOWN AND VIEW THIS RATIONALLY!

IF THESE SHARDS COME FROM A PRIMITIVE LOST WORLD, THIS VASE WAS WORTH A FORTUNE!

TREASURE REFERENCE

GOPHER-STREET'S PRIMITIVES PRICE GUIDE

BUT WHAT ABOUT BRIGITTA?

CALM, LOUIE! CALM AND RATIONAL!

IT'S WORTH $20,000! CALM AND RATIONAL ENOUGH FOR YOU?

ART OF BANANIAS: THE QUANCHOS

-›GLEEP!‹- HOW MANY MORE OF THOSE ARE *JUST LYING AROUND?* -›GURGLE!‹-

OK, WE'RE OFF TO RESCUE THOSE *VALUABLE ARTIFACTS* ... OH, AND *BRIGITTA!*

YAAY!

SECRET SURVEILLANCE BRINGS THE NEWS TO EVIL EARS ...

SPREAD TH' WORD ... *THE TURTLE IS LEAVIN' TH' SHELL!*

-›CHOKE!‹-

176-1

BEANS

THIS AIN'T ANOTHER *FALSE ALARM?*

NO! IT'S FOR REAL!

ALERT, *WORST RESPONDERS!* TIME FOR A *FOUR-ALARM BIN ASSAULT!*

LIAR STATION #1

MOVE IT!

DING-DING!

ROGER!

-›URGH!‹-

EVERYONE GET IN *POSITION!*

AS *SOON* AS THEY'RE GONE, WE HIT THE EAST WALL WITH ALL WE'VE GOT! -:HAR!:-

FINAL CHECKS, BOYS?

CHECK-A-ROONIE, UNCA SCROOGE!

WHAT'S TH' BIG DELAY?

I-I'M GETTIN' A *BAD FEELING!*

ME THREE!

176-176

LET'S SEE IF THIS *BIG IDEA* OF YOURS WORKS!

AYE -- MY *FOOLPROOF* NEW *MONEY HIDEAWAY!* PUSH THIS BUTTON, AND ...

...CONTACT!!!

WROOMBLE

CREEAK!

RUMMBLE!

VVROOAAAM!

TH' BIN'S GONE!

CHEE! WHO SAYS YA CAN'T ...

... TAKE IT WITH YOU?

GO

VOOOOMM

WELL I'LL BE A *SLACK-JAWED SAWTOOTH!* IF THAT DON'T BEAT ALL!

BYE-BYE, BIN!

-:SOB! SOB!:-

BROTHERS, THAT'S DISHEARTENING FOR SURE!

ALL WE CAN DO IS MAKE WITH ONE HUGE ...

176-176

SING SONG

71

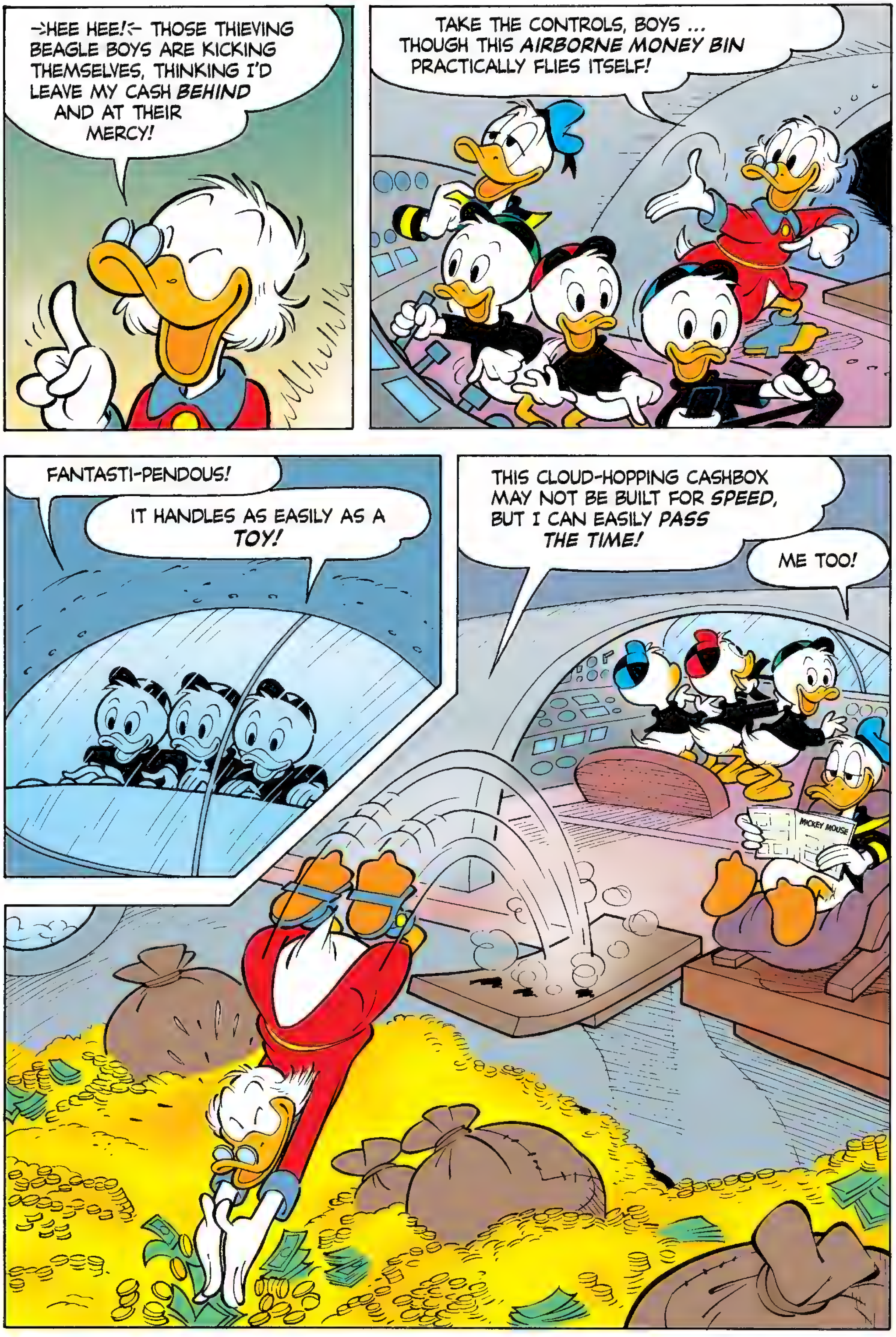
...SIGH!

BEAGLE BOYS INC.

BEAGLE BOYS INC.

BEAUTIFUL, UNK!

IT'S NOT AERODYNAMIC, BUT IT *FLIES!* SAY, DID YOU HEAR A *SIGH?*


-:HEE HEE!:- THOSE THIEVING BEAGLE BOYS ARE KICKING THEMSELVES, THINKING I'D LEAVE MY CASH *BEHIND* AND AT THEIR MERCY!
TAKE THE CONTROLS, BOYS ... THOUGH THIS *AIRBORNE MONEY BIN* PRACTICALLY FLIES ITSELF!
FANTASTI-PENDOUS!
IT HANDLES AS EASILY AS A *TOY!*
THIS CLOUD-HOPPING CASHBOX MAY NOT BE BUILT FOR *SPEED*, BUT I CAN EASILY *PASS THE TIME!*
ME TOO!
MICKEY MOUSE

AND, AFTER MANY TIME ZONES ARE TRAVERSED ...

BANANIAS ARCHIPELAGO, AHOY!

COURAGE, BRIGITTA! WE'LL FIND YOU!

ENGAGE PONTOONS!

PONTOONS ENGAGED!

LANDING INITIATED!

AS EXPECTED, HERE'S THE CUSTOMS PATROL!

WHEEEEEE

ANYTHING TO DECLARE? FOOD? PLANTS? COMIC BOOKS?

JUST ...

... *55 FANTASTICATILLION DOLLARS AND 16 CENTS!* OH, AND MY NEPHEW HAS *ONE* COMIC BOOK! HERE'S THE PAPERWORK!

GASP

SWOOOON!

THEY FAINTED, UNK!

AWK! I KNEW YOUR COMIC BOOK WOULD BE A PROBLEM!

SKIP IT, GENTS! I'LL MAKE IT EASY AND PARK THIS TUB IN *INTERNATIONAL WATERS* -- OK?

?

SO, FAR FROM SHORE ...

ON BOARD? =>PUFF!<= COULDN'T YOU SPRING FOR AN *OUT*BOARD? =>PANT!<=

BE CAREFUL! LET NO ONE ON BOARD!

SOFTIE! IT'S JUST AN EASY *FIVE MILES!*

=>PUFF!<= FIVE *NAUTICAL* MILES!

AND THROUGH SUPER-*WEIRD* WAVES!

THEY SEEM TO BE SPIRALING OUTWARD!

THEY START FROM THAT STRANGE ROCKY LEDGE!

I'D LIKE TO SEE THAT MORE CLOSELY!

I SAID *CLOSER!* NOT FURTHER AWAY, DIMWIT!

SORRY! I DON'T HAVE A *SAY* IN IT!

-PANT!- WE *GO* WITH THE *FLOW!*

I SAY *WHOA!*

SOON AFTER ...

AH, MORE VISITORS COMING IN ON THE NOON TIDE!

TOURIST INFORMATION

BLAMM

HOTEL

G-GOOD DAY! AM I INTERRUPTING?

CRAASH

TELL ME ALL YOU KNOW ABOUT *UNDER-GROUND VILLAGES* WHERE PRIMITIVE PEOPLES LIVE!

HERE? OR IN SOME *FANTASY?*

OUR *VOLCANIC SUBSOIL* IS SO *HOT* THAT A *FRIED CHICKEN* WOULD COMPLAIN ABOUT THE HEAT!

→PANT! PANT!←

MAKES SENSE! BUT BRIGITTA'S MESSAGE WAS *VERY EXPLICIT!* THERE *MUST* BE A VILLAGE SOMEWHERE!

→SIGH!← THIS WORLD IS TOO NOISY AND POLLUTED -- AND *NOBODY WAITS ON ME!*

→PUFF! PANT!← SOMETIMES I WONDER *WHY* I GET STUCK WITH ALL THE BAD LUCK!

→WHEEZE!←

THIS *ANCIENT TREE*, CALLED THE *WOODEN DRAGON*, HAS BEEN LIVING FOR 3,000 YEARS! ANY QUESTIONS?

HUSH! THAT *TEACHER* IS GIVING AN OUTDOOR LECTURE! LET'S GET SOME *FREE EDUCATION!*

YES, TEACHER! I'D LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT THAT *STRANGE ROCK FORMATION* OUT THERE!

BRAVO! IT'S CALLED *NEPTUNE'S FUNNEL!* MY, WHAT A *TALL* LITTLE BOY -- WITH SIDEBURNS, TOO!

IT IS BEST TO AVOID THE FUNNEL'S *SURROUNDING WHIRLPOOLS* AND ITS *DANGEROUS AIR CURRENTS!*

THE COOL SEA AIR GOES IN, AND A *HOT WIND* BLOWS OUT, ABOUT ONCE EVERY HOUR!

FAR BELOW, AN *ACTIVE VOLCANO* HEATS THAT COOL AIR, WHICH RUSHES BACK UP AND OUT!

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE AS INTERESTED AS YOU! HERE'S A DIME FOR YOUR DILIGENCE!

WOW! CONSIDER ME THE *TEACHER'S PET!*

PAT

WHO SAYS LEARNING DOESN'T PAY OFF?

WHY, EVEN *YOU'VE LEARNED* HOW TO *AVOID ROWING!*

SWELL!

THE FUNNEL'S IN ITS *BLOWING* PHASE! SOMETHING'S COME *OUT* OF IT!

?

IT'S A *VASE* -- LIKE THE ONE YOU SMASHED!

GRAB IT, DONALD!

THIS ONE'S *ALSO* FROM BRIGITTA!

FOR *YOU!*

"SCROOGE! HELP! COME SAVE ME!"

THE VILLAGE MUST BE *DOWN THAT FUNNEL!*

?

WE CAN FIND IT!

WE NEED A RESCUE PLAN!

FIRST, WE GET INTO THE FUNNEL, THEN FIND BRIGITTA, AND BRING HER OUT!

IT WILL BE *DANGEROUS!* ONE OF US WILL HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY LOWERED DOWN, AVOIDING THE VOLCANO ...

???

... MAKE HIS WAY TO THE VILLAGE, AND LOOK FOR *MORE VASES* ... ER, *BRIGITTA* ...

... WHILE I SUPERVISE THE OPERATION FROM UP HERE! *OH, DONNNALD?*

WHERE'D HE GO?

OUT OF THAT *ROCKET TUBE*, COWARD!

OH, NO! I'M *SAFER HERE* THAN IN THAT FUNNEL!

PHOOEY! YOU CANNOT SHIRK YOUR DUTY TO RECOVER THOSE *GREAT ARCHAEOLOGICAL TREASURES* ... OH, AND, UH, *BRIGITTA!*

ALL RIGHT, SLACKER, I'LL GO, TOO -- WITH THIS *TELESCOPIC CLIMBING GEAR!*

T-L-I-K

JUST CURIOUS ... *HOW* DO WE GET OUT TO THE FUNNEL?

EASY! I HAVE A *HELICOPTER* ON BOARD! DIDN'T YOU KNOW?

WAIT! YOU HAD A HELICOPTER, AND I DID *ALL THAT ROWING?* WHY?

SAVING *FUEL* COSTS!

GOOD LUCK, UNCAS!

HMM ... SEEING IT FROM ABOVE *IS* A LITTLE DAUNTING!

IZZAT SO, MR. TOUGHER-THAN-THE-TOUGHIES?

BE CAREFUL! AND GIVE US UPDATES VIA RADIO!

GOODBYE!

YOU SAID IT!

STOP *GRIPING!* SO THE WALLS ARE *A BIT SLICK!*

A *BIT?*

OUR REAL PROBLEM IS THAT IT'S TIME FOR THE *HOT AIR BLAST!*

HANG ON!

-*KOFF!*- THAT GUY WAS RIGHT ABOUT *FRIED CHICKENS* ... SAYS THIS "*ROAST DUCK*"!

YEOW! OUT GOES THE HOT AIR, IN COMES THE *COLD!*

WHOOSH!

DEEP-FRIED AND QUICK-FROZEN! →BRRR!←

AMAZING! SUNLIGHT IS *REFRACTED* OFF THESE *MIRRORED WALLS*, KEEPING US FROM DESCENDING INTO DARKNESS!

DO TELL!

TIME PASSES ...

I-I THINK WE'VE *REACHED THE ENTRANCE*, UNCLE SCROOGE!

I CAN SEE GREEN FOLIAGE!

AND SOME *GLAD-HANDED LOCALS!*

SAY, THEY'RE *DUCKS!*

NO DOUBT CELEBRATING OUR *PERILOUS JOURNEY!*

PLNT FUUUD!

PLNT FUUUD!

TREASURES IN POTTERY!
PLNT ...
...FUUUD!
THIS MUST BE THE QUANCHOS' VILLAGE! WOW!
WAK! LOOK, DONALD ... A COLOSSAL BLOCK OF GOLD ...
... CARVED AS A BUNCH OF BANANAS? BELIEVE IT, UNCLE SCROOGE!
GOLD BANANAS ... AND A REAL GIANT CABBAGE PLANT!
CHOMP
?!

GURGLE

HA! A *CABBAGE* EATING *BANANAS!* THAT TAKES THE *CAKE!* HO-HO!

LOSE THE LAUGHTER, NEPHEW! SOMETHING'S UP!

→*ULP!*← I'M AFRAID THIS QUANCHO CABBAGE EATS *MORE* THAN JUST BANANAS!

WAIT! PLANTS PERISH *REGULARLY* IN MY CARE!

PLNT!

WAK! *"PLNT FUUUD"* MEANS *PLANT FOOD!*

FUUUD!

THEY'RE NOT FOOD!

?

STOP AT ONCE!

MIRACLE OF MIRACLES ...

IT CAN'T BE, BUT *IT IS* ...

BRIGITTA!

SCROOGE, MY *PRE-ORDAINED HUSBAND!* YOU'VE FINALLY ARRIVED!

AND JUST IN TIME TO BE *CONSORT* TO THE NEXT QUALANI!

?

PROPHESY TOLD OF YOU AND YOUR FAITHFUL SQUIRE COMING FROM ABOVE!

DON'T SAY A WORD! JUST ROLL WITH IT!

THE RETIRING OLD QUALANI WITNESSES ALL!

NOW I MAY FADE AWAY IN SERENITY! HITTA WILL BE A *WISE RULER!*

HOORAY FOR HITTA!

OUR NEW QUALANI, WITH CONSORT!

AND THEIR TRUSTY SQUIRE, TOO! YAY!

THE PEOPLE REJOICE! ... AND *YOU?*

I PROTEST ... VIOLENTLY SO! →*GROWL!*←

YOU HAVE NO CHOICE, OUTWORLDER! YOU MUST REMAIN HERE FOREVER -- OR YOU WOULD REVEAL THE *EXISTENCE* OF THIS LAND-OF-PLENTY TO *GOLD PLUNDERERS!*

WAK!

STRANGELY, SHE'S *GOT A POINT!*

YOU CONNIVING CHEATER! I RESPONDED TO YOUR CRIES FOR HELP, AND YOU SCHEMED ONLY TO *TRAP ME!*

READ BETWEEN THE *LIES*, LAMMYKINS!

TAKE THEM TO THEIR HUT! ONCE THEY ARE PROPERLY ASSIMILATED, WE WILL *CELEBRATE THE WEDDING!*

-:SNIFF!:- ONE GOOD THING ... THAT BANANA CARVING MAKES THE AIR *SMELL LIKE GOLD!*

WHOOPTY DOO!

ALSO -- THE *SUN*, BOUNCING OFF THOSE SMOOTHLY-MIRRORED WALLS, BRINGS *LIGHT* AND *NOURISHMENT* TO THIS HIDDEN VALLEY!

PHOOEY!

NIGHT FALLS ...

WE'VE GOT TO RADIO THE BOYS! THEY MUST BE WORRIED!

OH, SURE! JUST GET OUR BAGS, *FAITHFUL SQUIRE!*

→PUFF! PANT!← YOUR *LUNCH*, STRANGERS!

LUNCH? IT'S *HALF-PAST SUPPER!* ANOTHER QUAINT CUSTOM?

→SHHH!← SPEAK SOFTLY!

BRIGITTA!

I WAS ONLY *PLAYING ALONG* ... TO AVOID BECOMING A *MEAL* FOR THAT *CARNIVOROUS CABBAGE!*

THEIR HEIR TO THE CROWN *RAN OFF!* SHE LOOKS JUST LIKE ME! THEY FOUND ME, AND THEY *THINK I'M HER!*

I *SAW HER* UP THERE ON THE ISLAND! I SAID NOTHING BUT KEPT DESPERATELY SENDING OUT THOSE *PLEAS FOR HELP!*

SO, WHAT NOW?

WE NEED OUR *BAGS!*

I THOUGHT SO! HERE THEY ARE!

WELL DONE!

-AWK!- THE RADIO! BROKEN!

WE'RE DOOMED!

EVEN THE *TELESCOPIC STICKS* ARE IN PIECES! UM, *YOU* CAN FIX *ANYTHING*, CAN'T YOU, SQUIRE?

OH, LIKE I'M *GYRO GEARLOOSE?*

THAT MEANS WE'RE *STUCK HERE* ...

... *FOREVER* ...

... *AND EVER!*

BACK ON THE SURFACE, HUEY, DEWEY, AND LOUIE MAY HAVE LOST RADIO CONTACT BUT NOT THEIR RESOURCEFUL-NESS!

WE'LL BE BACK WITH THE POLICE, THE ARMY ... OR A *GAME WARDEN!*

STAY AWAY FROM THE WHIRLPOOL!

HOLY RIGATONI! IS THAT ... *BRIGITTA?*

SURE IS!

BRIGITTA, HOW DID YOU GET *HERE?*

YOU WERE A *PRISONER* OF ...

?

FACTS START TO EMERGE!

YOU ARE HER IDENTICAL TWIN!

OR SHE, MINE! WE MET AT THE BANANIAS MUSEUM!

HITTA AGREES TO BOARD THE MONEY BIN AND DISCUSS THE MATTER FURTHER!

I BELIEVE YOU CHILDREN! I TRUST YOU! BUT YOU MUST *NEVER REVEAL MY STORY!*

JUNIOR WOODCHUCK'S HONOR, MA'AM!

I AM HITTA, HEIR TO THE *CROWN OF THE QUANCHOS!* MY PEOPLE ESCAPED FROM SPANIARD COLONISTS AND CONCEALED THEMSELVES BELOW GROUND OVER FIVE CENTURIES AGO!

HONESTLY, I GOT *BORED* WITH THE ANCIENT BIT AND ABDICATED! NOW I INTEND TO RETURN ... AND I WILL TREAT YOUR RELATIVES KINDLY!

BUT ... THEY MUST *STAY WITH US FOREVER* -- AS WILL *YOU!* THE SECRETS OF MY LAND AND MY PEOPLE MUST *REMAIN UNKNOWN* TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD! SORRY!

AWESOME IDEA ALERT!

GUYS, HITTA NEEDS A *COMPLETE AND TOTAL GUARANTEE* THAT NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW OF THE QUANCHOS' VILLAGE!

YEAH, SO?

COME! YOUR *NEW HOME* AWAITS!

A MOMENT, HITTA!

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ALL THE *MONEY* OUR UNCA SCROOGE BROUGHT HERE WITH HIM?

MAYBE, KINDA?

LOOK! ALL OF THIS BELONGS TO UNCA SCROOGE, AND HE WORRIES HIMSELF SICK 'CAUSE HE'S NEVER FOUND A *SAFE PLACE* TO *KEEP* IT!

HITTA, ARE YOU THINKING WHAT *WE'RE* THINKING?

I THINK I *AM!*

SO, DEAR UNCLE, STILL GLAD TO *LIVE IN GOLD?*

AS OPPOSED TO BEING *LOONEY* AND *MARRIED* BACK HOME? *YES!*

EVEN IF IT MEANS CHOKING DOWN BANANAS FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE! -*UGH!*-

I'M SORRY, GUYS!

IF ONLY I COULD, I'D TAKE VANILLA!

R-RUMBLE

ER, DO YOU HEAR A *DULL ROAR?*

WHOA! I RECOGNIZE THAT EXHAUST PIPE, AND IT'S DROPPING ...

VROOSH

... METRIC TONS OF MONEY! ... MY MONEY!

RUMBLE

?

GRASS?

ROCKS?

THE KIDS MUST HAVE DUMPED IT DOWN! ARE THEY OUT OF THEIR MINDS?

IF YOU ASK ME, THEY'VE SOLVED ALL OUR PROBLEMS!

FOR ONCE, DONALD IS ABSOLUTELY CORRECT!

MY COUNTRY, I RETURN TO YOU AT LAST!

PLINK

I HAVE ONLY TO REVERSE THE STEPS OF THIS ANCIENT MAP!

OUR HONORED VISITORS SHOULD *SLUMBER QUITE WELL* ON A STRICT DIET OF QUANCHO BANANAS!

ZZZZ

BUT, *NOT MR. McDUCK*, OF COURSE! STILL RESTLESS AND FRETTING OVER THE SAFETY OF HIS MONEY, IT WOULD SEEM!

Z-Z-Z-Z

BRIGITTA? WHAT ARE YOU ...

HUSH! *I'M THE REAL HITTA*, BACK TO BECOME QUALANI OF THE QUANCHOS!

YOU! YOU'VE JUST TAKEN MY MONEY!

?

NO! THIS IS A MESSAGE FROM YOUR WISE GRANDNEPHEWS! *READ* AND *CONSIDER!*

UNCA SCROOGE,
THIS HIDDEN LAND IS THE SOLUTION TO YOUR PROBLEMS! LEAVE YOUR MONEY HERE WITH THE GOOD QUANCHOS AND — IF YOU DON'T BETRAY THEIR SECRET — YOUR MONEY WILL BE SAFE HERE FOREVER! QUALANI HITTA THE FIRST GIVES HER GUARANTEE! ...

QUANCHOS' HONOR!

"HITTA WILL SHOW YOU THE SECRET EXIT! WE'LL BE WAITING!" THOSE KIDS ARE *GENIUSES!*

INDEED! I RESUME MY PLACE, AND YOU THREE MAY LEAVE!

MY PEOPLE HAVE *NO USE FOR YOUR MONEY!* IT WILL BE SAFE!

PERFECT! BUT MAY I TROUBLE YOU WITH *ONE* MORE REQUEST ...

A *GOLD BANANA*, TO REMEMBER YOU BY?

THAT IS FORBIDDEN, BUT YOU MAY *SCRATCH* AT THE GOLDEN BUNCH WITH YOUR NAILS!

SCRATCH, NEPHEW! SCRATCH FOR ALL YOU'RE WORTH!

IF ONLY I HAD THE TALONS OF AN *EAGLE!*

AND, IN GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SECRECY, ALL THE *POTTERY* YOU CAN *CARRY!*

OBOY!

TO EXIT, FOLLOW THIS MAP! BUT THEN *DESTROY IT* -- LEST IT FALL INTO AVARICIOUS HANDS! AGREED?

YOU HAVE THE WORD OF *SCROOGE McDUCK*, AND THAT'S WORTH ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD!

YOUR FORTUNE IS SECURE! I WILL FETCH MY TWIN! *FAREWELL!*

SO LONG!

-:DROOL!:-

SOON ...

IT'S *BRIGITTA!*

THANK YOU! THANK YOU FOR GAINING MY *RELEASE!*

YEAH! BE USEFUL AND *TAKE THIS SACK!*

DEAR DOLLARS! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT *SCENERY* TO THESE GOOD PEOPLE! YOU'RE *FINALLY SAFE* ONCE AND FOR ALL!

PAT PAT

SO, WHAT ARE THE DUCKS THINKING ON THE LONG TREK SURFACEWARD? LET'S LISTEN IN ...

WHAT ABOUT ...

... MY MONEY? *I'LL NEVER SPEND IT!* LET IT LIE HERE, *ALWAYS MINE!*

FOR ANYONE ELSE, THAT WOULD BE *CRAZY* ... BUT FOR YOU, SOMEHOW, IT FITS!

OUR FRIENDS FINALLY CLIMB OUT!

OH, BOYS! →PUFF! PANT!←

WE MADE IT!

HOORAY!

NO HUGS! NO HANDSHAKES! IT'LL LOOSEN THAT SUBCUTANEOUS GOLD DUST!

SPAT

CHEER-FULLY, THEY RETURN TO THE FLYING MONEY BIN!

I'M SO HAPPY TO BE RESCUED BY YOU BRAVE BOYS -- AND MY *DEAR OLD LAMMYKINS!*

I'M NOT SURE *UNCA DONALD'S* RESCUED *YET!*

MANICURE TIME! CUTTING YOUR NAILS RECOVERS THE *GOLD DUST!*

CLIP! CLIP!

YOU'RE SO GREEDY, YOU'LL RECOVER SOME *FINGERS*, TOO! *HELP!*

UNCA SCROOGE, WAIT! WE'VE GOT A *SURPRISE* FOR YOU!

HOLD STILL, DONALD!

CLIP! CLIP!

WE KEPT A TUBFUL OF MONEY FOR YOUR SWIMMING PLEASURE!

YOU BOYS THINK OF EVERYTHING! *WHEEE!*

THE FLYING MONEY BIN WINGS ITS WAY HOME!

HAPPY NOW?

DELIGHTED! NO BEAGLE BOYS WILL EVER FIND MY MONEY IN THIS NATURAL UNDERWATER BREATHING VAULT! I'M FINALLY AT PEACE!

BUT WHAT IF YOU NEED CASH?

I'M ALWAYS EARNING MORE! SO MUCH THAT ...

... I'LL BE BACK HERE ON THE SLY WITH ANOTHER DEPOSIT IN TWO WEEKS!

The End

Romano Scarpa: Disney Maestro

by FRANCESCO STAJANO AND LEONARDO GORI

AS A CHILD, ROMANO SCARPA (1927–2005), born in Venice, Italy, adored the stories by Floyd Gottfredson that he regularly read in *Topolino* (*Mickey Mouse*), the Italian Disney comic book series that was at that time published in tabloid newspaper format.

But he was even more fascinated by Walt Disney's animated masterpiece, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (1937) — which inspired him to try his hand at creating his own animated cartoons.

He gathered a young group of fellow enthusiasts and began creating animated shorts and commercials. In 1953, Scarpa's team produced *La piccola fiammiferaia* (*The Little Match Girl*), based on the Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale.

Alas, soon after that project, Scarpa was involved in an accident that left him unable to stand for several months. That, and the meager financial return from his work, led him to close the studio. (He returned to animation briefly in later years.)

He turned to comics and began working for Mondadori, the Italian Disney publisher. He soon found himself drawing a story featuring his beloved Snow White — for whom Scarpa's fiancée and later wife, Sandra Zanardi, posed as his model (see *The Return of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, Fantagraphics Books, 2017).

Romano Scarpa receives the Yellow Kid Award, a major comics industry prize, at the Lucca comics convention in Tuscany, Italy, 1990. Photo courtesy Luca Boschi.

From the start, Scarpa's artwork owed much to Golden Age animation, and one can see echoes of the work of Fred Moore (designer of the Seven Dwarfs and the artist who had famously streamlined Mickey Mouse throughout the 1930s). The better Scarpa learned to imitate Moore, the better he was also able to emulate Floyd Gottfredson.

It all came together when, in 1955, King Features Syndicate changed the *Mickey Mouse* newspaper strip from an adventure serial (which *Topolino* was reformatting as comic book stories) to gag-a-day strips. That forced Mondadori to create its own Mickey adventure stories. The publisher initially drafted Scarpa to draw new Mickey adventures but later asked him to write them, too.

It was a labor of love. At first, Scarpa mimicked Gottfredson's style so well that, to his delight, many Italian readers thought that Scarpa's yarns were actually the latest installments from Gottfredson.

Scarpa soon started writing his own stories, creating suspenseful, elaborate plots similar to the best of Gottfredson's (such as "Island in the Sky," now available in *Mickey Mouse: The Greatest Adventures*, Fantagraphics Books, 2018). Scarpa's own stories (including "The Delta Dimension" in *Disney Masters* Volume 1) have equally powerful imagery — each is built upon several intertwining subplots that ultimately unravel in a dramatic conclusion.

Along the way, Scarpa introduced new characters, including Trudy Van Tubb (Pegleg Pete's brassy girlfriend) and Brigitta MacBridge and Jubal Pomp (respectively, Uncle Scrooge's hopeless love interest and his hapless business rival).

Unlike other writer-artists, Scarpa was equally at ease with both Mice and Ducks — hence this volume of Scarpa Duck tales.

Scarpa's "golden age" was arguably his first decade of activity: 1953 to 1963, during which time he spared no effort to build meticulously crafted plots as suspenseful and surprising as Gottfredson's. After that, though, Scarpa gradually switched to only illustrating the stories of other writers.

He did, however, return to storytelling in full glory near the end of his career, when — as an explicit homage to Gottfredson — he created four special Mickey "strip stories" that recreated the spirit, layout, and structure of Gottfredson's daily adventure strips.

Romano Scarpa's legacy, as both a Gottfredson protégé and as a towering comics talent in his own right, remains unsurpassed.

Look! Duck in the Sky!

Fantagraphics presents Disney Masters — acclaimed artists from around the world working in the grand Walt Disney tradition. In this volume, you'll discover the secrets behind that stalwart protector of Duckburg — Duck Avenger!

Not even Huey, Dewey, and Louie know his real identity. But when Uncle Scrooge, to promote his wax museum, sends a robot double of Duck Avenger flying past Donald Duck's house, Duck Avenger's secret is threatened! Can our hero use his high-tech gadgets to protect himself — or will hyper-lucky Gladstone Gander make things even worse?

Next, Brigitta MacBridge uses her money-scented perfume to lure Uncle Scrooge to a remote island where they are "Captured in Bananaland" — Romano Scarpa's one-and-only collaboration with Duck artist supreme Carl Barks!

Romano Scarpa — the grand maestro of Italian Disney comics — surprises and delights with every twist and turn in these fast-paced laugh- and thrill-filled mysteries and adventures.